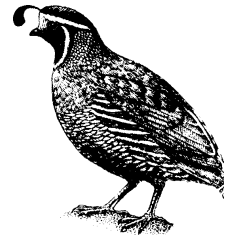




WING BEAT NEWS

FALL 2003

QUAIL SEASON



Early Mountain Quail Season Zone A starts Saturday, September 13, 2003 and ends Friday, October 17, 2003. This early mountain quail zone includes the counties of Alpine, Butte, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Inyo, Lassen, Modoc, Mono, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Tehama, Trinity, and those portions of Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, Nevada, Placer, Tuolumne, Tulare, and Yuba Counties lying east of the western boundary of the national forests. **The General Quail Season for all quail in Zone A is open from October 18, 2003 to January 25, 2004** (same as Balance of the State Season).

The Early Coastal Season (Zone B) for all quail in the counties of Marin, Napa, Solano, Sonoma, Lake and Mendocino is from September 27, 2003 to January 25, 2004.

The 2003 season for all quail in the Balance of the State Season (Zone C) runs from October 18, 2003 to January 25, 2004. The Balance of the State Season (all species) hunting Zone C includes the remaining land area not included in Zone B (the counties of Marin, Napa, Solano, Sonoma, Lake and Mendocino).

Bag Limit: 10 quail in any combination of species per day. Possession Limit: double the daily bag limit. Be sure to check the California Hunting Regulations for Resident Game Birds for further information. Call the numbers listed under PLACES TO HUNT on how to acquire maps of those areas.

Shooting Hours for Upland Game Birds - The shooting hours for all upland game birds, except for pheasants and the spring wild turkey season, shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. The shooting hours for pheasants shall be from 8:00 a.m. to sunset. The shooting hours for the spring wild turkey season shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to 4:00 p.m.

Pat Lauridson, the Department of Fish and Game Wildlife Biologist responsible for quail management in California, reports that quail brood survival appears high due to a wet Spring and abundant insects. Hunting prospects are looking very good.

HUNTING QUAIL - In northern California there are two species of quail, the California or "valley" quail and the mountain quail.

The California quail is a social animal and spends most of the year, including the hunting season, in large groups called coveys. These coveys are usually formed in August and September when several family groups, consisting of parents and their offspring, merge to form one large group, the covey.

California quail prefer to roost in dense evergreen shrubs or trees, usually close to water. The covey rises from its roost between first light and sunrise. In cold or foul weather they may leave the roost much later. Just before the covey leaves the roost, one of the males will usually give a few good morning "Chi-ca-go" calls. This helps any quail that may have been separated from the covey, either when they went to roost or during the night, find their way back.

California quail are hunted in chaparral, oak woodlands and stream side habitats in lower elevation foothills and the valleys. California quail are quite vocal and sometimes the covey can be located by simply listening for their "chi-ca-go" call given most frequently during periods of active feeding in early morning or late evening. However, in order to consistently locate coveys of quail a hunting dog is a must.

REGION 2 SACRAMENTO VALLEY-CENTRAL SIERRA COUNTIES

Plumas, Butte, Glenn,
Colusa, Yolo, Solano,
Yuba, Sutter,
Sacramento, San
Joaquin, Calaveras,
Alpine, Amador, El
Dorado, Placer,
Nevada and Sierra



Changes to Regulations Printing for 2003/04

In light of the budget shortfall that all State agencies are facing, there will be a few changes ahead in the operation of Fish and Game as well as all other State agencies. There are two ways that the regulations will be produced. The first is a 2-sided flyer, similar to the one that is printed for the early upland game birds ie; dove & sage grouse, for waterfowl, upland game, mammals and furbearers. These flyers will be distributed to license agents and Fish and Game field offices. The flyers and complete regulations will be available at www.dfg.ca.gov/fg_comm/reg.html website. Thank you for your continued patience as we work to be the best stewards of our existing funds.

In contrast, mountain quail can be found on public lands in the Sierra Nevada and Coast Range forests. Hunting mountain quail in the steep brushy areas that they prefer can be a real challenge. Like the California quail, coveys of mountain quail can be located by listening for their high, clear, rather plaintive call. They will readily answer the whistle of a hunter trying to locate them.

HUNTING QUAIL WITHOUT A DOG - The first step is to locate a covey of quail, this goes for persons both with and without a dog. There are two keys to this puzzle: one is cover, the other is water. Once water has been located, search the surrounding terrain and locate some good cover, the thicker the better. If there is no good cover within 1/4 mile try another spot. Head toward the cover, keeping an eye open for quail scurrying along the ground out the "back door". Also keep an ear open for their "pit-pit" alarm call. If they spot you and they are a good distance away, you may hear their assembly call.

If they are heading up a valley draw, odds are they will continue to travel along the cover in front of you. Place one person on each side of the draw and follow them. If you have a third person, put one down in the draw. This will help prevent you from moving past them. If they are heading up the side of a hill (especially a steep one) it is best to try and out maneuver them than to out climb them. In most cases they will go right over the top or hang up in some cover on the hill. Send one person around the other side while the other one stays at the bottom of the hill. At some predetermined time both of you head up the hill from opposite sides. Be prepared for some fast action at the top of the hill, but also be sure of where the other hunter is before shooting.

LOCATING DOWNED QUAIL- You are standing in the area where you know the dead quail fell, but you don't see it. Now what? Look for loose feathers on the ground. Feathers are almost always left where they hit the ground. However, there often is another group of feathers dropped by a quail when shot that can be misleading. The reason they can be misleading is that the bird often travels a considerable distance beyond where it was hit, and if there is even the slightest breeze the feathers can drift a considerable distance from where it might be. The two groups can usually be told apart by where the feathers are found and how tightly the feathers are grouped. The feathers left on the ground where the bird lands are usually tightly bunched. Feathers from the in-air hit are usually found widely scattered and on top of shrubbery. Don't expect to find the quail sitting right there among the feathers. Most often they bounce or roll a few feet from the point of impact with the ground. When you find these feathers remember the direction it was heading when you rolled it. Search the area beyond the feathers in the same direction. If you have searched this area with no success, double the distance beyond the feathers and search again. They usually travel further than you think they did. It is not unusual to spend 30 minutes searching for a single downed quail. You owe it to that bird to keep trying.

The creation of brushpiles and sources of water are methods used to increase quail numbers on wildlife areas and near rural homes. The DFG and other conservation groups have installed hundreds of underground water tanks or guzzlers, which collect rainwater for wildlife. Homeowners can provide water by allowing a hose to drip into a half barrel or basin placed on the ground.

SAFETY WHILE QUAIL HUNTING

Always know where all members of your hunting party are. Hunting parties should be kept to two or three. Larger parties should consider spreading out and splitting into small groups. If your party has found some quail, determine in which directions it would be unsafe to shoot.

Each person should wear blaze orange and talk with your buddies so that you know where they are. Camouflage clothing is not necessary for quail hunting, the quail know where you are regardless of what you wear. **If you have to chase down a crippled bird, make sure your gun is on safety. Take water for your dog and you.**

PLACES TO HUNT

Jackson State Forest on Hwy 20 between Fort Bragg and Willits; 50,200 acres of mixed coniferous forest, CA and Mtn. quail, band-tailed pigeon, cottontail rabbit and blue grouse. Jackson State Forest, PO Box 1185, 802 Main Street, Fort Bragg, CA 95437. 707 964-5674.

Cache Creek Wildlife Area (3,860 acre of DFG land) and Cache Creek Management Area (85,000 acres of BLM land) in Lake, Yolo and Colusa Counties. **Habitat:** Oak grassland and dense chaparral. **There are 3 access points.** **1. North Fork Cache Creek Trailhead;** from Interstate Highway 5 at Williams, go west on Highway 20 approximately 33 miles to the parking lot on the south side of the road. The entrance is immediately past where Highway 20 crosses over North Fork Cache Creek. From Highway 101 at Calpella, go east on Highway 20 about 48 miles to the parking lot. **2. Langs Peak Road Access;** take Highway 16 south of Highway 20 to County Road 40. Follow the winding switchbacks for 4.5 miles to Langs Peak Road. Langs Peak road is a 4WD road. **3. Davis Street Access;** take Highway 53 south off Highway 20 to 40th Avenue and turn left at the stop light. Make immediate left and follow to Davis Street. Access is to the left of the Clearlake landfill entrance. **Deer, bear, wild pig, coyote, wild turkey, CA and mtn quail, mourning dove, tree squirrel, band-tailed pigeon, cottontail and jackrabbit are present. An entry permit for hunting, issued by special drawing by the DFG, is required for the first two days of the spring turkey season.** The Payne Ranch (13,000 acres) was recently purchased to improve habitat for wildlife and the tule elk herd. BLM Ukiah office at 707 468-4000 or DFG at (707) 944-5500

Indian Valley Wildlife Area (1,600 acres of DFG land) and Indian Valley Management Area (50,000 acres of BLM land) in Lake and Colusa Counties -Habitat: Dense chaparral with small scattered pockets of oak grassland. **Access:** About 27 miles west of Williams or 14 miles east of Clearlake Oaks on Highway 20 to Walker Ridge Road. Travel north on Walker Ridge Road to Indian Valley Reservoir. **Deer, bear, wild pig, coyote, wild turkey, waterfowl, CA and mtn quail, dove, tree squirrel, cottontail and jackrabbit are present.** The BLM has developed two campgrounds with water and restroom facilities. A boat ramp is available at the north and south ends of the lake. **Warmwater fishing in the reservoir for largemouth bass, crappie, rainbow trout, bluegill and catfish.** Cache Creek below the reservoir is planted with brown trout and is open during trout season. BLM in Ukiah at 707 468-4000.

Cow Mountain Recreation Area (50,000 acres of BLM land) in Lake and Mendocino Counties. **Habitat:** Rugged chaparral with some oak woodland. **Access from Ukiah,** 5 miles via Talmage and Mill Creek roads. **Access from Lakeport,** 5 miles via Scott Creek Road which is a rugged unimproved dirt road, and is closed during the winter due to impassable high water. Because these roads are narrow and winding with steep slopes, large recreational vehicles and travel trailers are not recommended. The rifle range, located just north of the Willow Creek Day Use Site, has been developed specifically for target shooting. There are 5 camping areas. **The 27,000 acre North Cow Mountain RA is closed to Off-Highway Vehicles.** The 23,000 acre South Cow Mountain Off-Highway Vehicle RA has developed roads for OHV recreation. Open to hunting all year during legal seasons. **Deer, bear, wild pig, coyote, wild turkey, CA quail, dove, tree squirrel, band-tailed pigeon, cottontail and jackrabbit are present.** Bureau of Land Mgt in Ukiah (707) 468-4000.

Knoxville Recreation Area in Lake and Napa Counties; (18,000 acres of BLM land) in Lake and Napa Counties. **Habitat:** Chaparral and cypress. About 2/3 of the area burned in 1999. **Access:** From Lower Lake take Morgan Valley Road 13 miles to the **north entrance.** The north entrance is 1 mile past the main gate to the McLaughlin Mine. The **south entrance** is three miles further south at the intersection with Devilshead Road. The south entrance is 17 miles from Lake Berryessa. A target shooting area is located near the northern entrance. There are developed roads for Off-Highway Vehicles. Camping is permitted in undeveloped locations throughout the recreation area. Hunting Creek Camp is located at the intersection of Dunnigan Hill Road and Hunting Creek Road at Hunting Creek. It has 5 sites with shade structures, tables, restrooms and water. All roads and trails are open to motorized vehicles. **Deer, wild pig, coyote, CA and mtn quail, dove, squirrel, and rabbit are present.** Bureau of Land Mgt in Ukiah 707 468-4000.

Cedar Roughs Area (About 6,500 acres of BLM and DFG land in 2 blocks in Napa County). **Habitat:** Predominantly chaparral and cypress with some oak grassland. **Deer, wild pig, coyote, wild turkey, valley and mtn quail, mourning dove, tree squirrel, cottontail and jackrabbit are present.** Camping allowed but there are no campsites. BLM Ukiah office at 707 468-4000. **Cedar Roughs main access:** Located off Pope Canyon Rd. 2.2 miles west of Pope Creek Bridge, Lake Berryessa or 6.3 miles east of the Pope Valley airstrip Provides access to about 6500 acres of land. Park on south side of brown and yellow gate and follow Pope Creek upstream approx. 1/4 mile. Look for trail markers. Cross Pope creek and climb hill a short distance to an abandoned jeep trail. Jeep trail provides access into the main block of public land. Note: The location where abandoned jeep trail crosses Pope Creek is private land. This location provides additional access to the Pope Creek Arm of Lake Berryessa, including several fishing access points. By packing a small rubber raft (and PFDs), you can cross the Pope Creek arm of the lake to the boat access trailhead to Cedar Roughs. From the brown and yellow gate, hike 0.6 miles southward to a "Y" in the trail. From here, go right 0.3 miles down the hill to the water crossing, then raft across.

Cedar Roughs Boat-In Access: Located 1.8 miles past Pope Creek Bridge on the Pope Creek Arm of Lake Berryessa. Nine boat ramps are accessible from the south and west sides of the lake. For accommodations, camping and boat launch information, call any of the Lake Berryessa resorts at: (all area codes and prefixes are: 707-966) Putah Creek Resort -2116; Ranch Monticello Resort -2188; Lake Berryessa Marina Resort -2161; Spanish Flat Resort -7700; Steele Park Resort -2123; Pleasure Cove Resort -2172; and Markley Cove Resort -2134. Capell Cove, a public boat launch is located just off Berryessa/Knoxville Road and State Route 128. From the main body of the lake, enter Pope Creek arm of Lake Berryessa by passing under the bridge. Continue westward 1.8 miles to the trailhead which will be on your port (left) side about a quarter mile past Trout Creek.

Maxwell Creek Access - Another area for hunting and wildlife viewing is located off Pope Canyon Rd. 4.2 miles west of Pope Creek Bridge, Lake Berryessa or 5.6 miles east of the Pope Valley air strip. Provides access to 335 acres of public land along or adjacent to Maxwell creek. Park at the wide spot along south side of road near mouth of Maxwell Creek and access via abandoned Dollarhide Rd. After approx. 1 mile, trail enters private lands. Note: The main block of Cedar Roughs is NOT accessible from this area.

2003 Yuba County Junior, Women's, Family, Mobility Impaired, and Wild Bird Hunts – Northern California

We would like to bring your attention to the Yuba Co. Fish and Game Commission, Yuba-Sutter Dept. of Fish and Game, and Sutter Co. Fish and Game Commission: **Junior, Women's, and Mobility Impaired Hunts on October 18-19, 25-26, and Nov. 1-2, 2003.** All of these hunts take place at the Nelson Slough Wildlife Area under the Highway 99 bridge near Nicolaus. Nelson Slough WA is about 25 miles north of Sacramento and 20 miles south of Yuba City on Highway 99. Due to the generosity of the Sutter and Yuba County Fish and Game Commissions, and many individuals, there are a large number of hunting opportunities available. All of these Nelson Slough WA hunts are with planted pheasants. **Planted pheasants are bigger and slower flying than wild pheasants, making them easier game for new hunters. The mobility impaired hunt for junior hunters on Nov 1 and 2 is designed for wheel chair bound junior hunters who can shoot a shotgun. Women hunters can hunt fields with other women or with their offspring.**

The Gray Lodge WA, Little Dry Creek WA and Llano Seco WA junior hunts are wild pheasant hunts. The Oroville WA, and Yolo Bypass WA junior hunts have planted pheasants. The Birds Limited mobility impaired hunt for any disabled hunter near Pleasant Grove (20 miles north of Sacramento) is by appointment (530 823-9310). The Southeast Fremont Weir Public Wild Pheasant Hunt in Yolo County is open to any applicant.

**See the application in the this issue of WBN to apply for these hunts. There are some deadlines fast approaching!
Start your planning now.**

Hunters Can Expect Longer Waterfowl Season, Increased Bag Limits, But Delayed Start in Some Areas; Impact of Budget Cuts Is Still Unknown

The California Fish and Game Commission has adopted a 99-day split waterfowl season for most of the state that again allows the use of spinning wing decoys during the second part of the season. The regulations also include youth-only hunting days for each zone.

The bag limit for ducks is seven per day, 14 in possession, which is an increase over last year for all zones except the Colorado River Zone. The bag can contain a maximum of two mallard hens, two redheads, one canvasback, one pintail and four scaup. The goose bag limit varies by zone, and is detailed below. For ducks and geese, the possession limit is double the daily bag.

The Commission had considered a motion to ban spinning wing decoys at its Aug. 28 meeting in Santa Rosa. After a lengthy debate the motion was defeated 3-2, leaving in place the existing regulation, which reads:

"Electronic or mechanically-operated calling or sound-reproducing devices are prohibited when attempting to take migratory game birds. It is unlawful to use electronic or mechanically-operated spinning blade devices or spinning wing decoys when attempting to take waterfowl between the start of waterfowl season and November 30. For the purposes of this regulation, wind-powered spinning blade devices and kites are not prohibited."

"Most duck populations were up over last year, and this year's wet spring is expected to result in better than average production of young ducks," said Dan Yparraguirre, the DFG's Waterfowl Program Coordinator. He also pointed out the shorter pintail season length which is similar to last year's regulation. "Although pintail populations were up significantly over last year, they remain far below their goal. As a result, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service elected to depart from its Interim Harvest Strategy which would have allowed a full season with a daily bag limit of one bird."

Hunters in the **Northeastern California Zone** will enjoy a 105-day duck season that runs Oct. 11 – Dec. 9, and Dec. 12 – Jan. 25. Spinning wing decoys are only allowed after Nov. 30. Pintails can be hunted only during a 60-day split season that runs from Oct. 11 – Nov. 30, and from Jan. 17 – Jan. 25, 2004. The canvasback season runs 60 straight days, from Oct. 11 – Dec. 9. Youth hunting days are Sept. 27 – 28, 2003. The goose season runs Oct. 11, 2003 – Jan. 18, 2004. The bag limit is three per day, with no more than two dark geese, one of which can be a small Canada goose.

The Balance of the State Zone and Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone run 99 days, from Oct. 18 – Nov. 19. The season reopens on Nov. 21 and runs through Jan. 25, 2004. Spinning wing decoys are only allowed after Nov. 30. Pintails can be harvested from Oct. 18 – Oct. 26, and from Dec. 6, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004. The canvasback season runs Nov. 27, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004. Youth hunting days are Jan. 31 – Feb. 1, 2004. The goose season runs Nov. 1, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004. The limit is three per day, with no more than two dark geese – one of which can be a small Canada goose.

The Southern California Zone runs 100 days, from Oct. 18, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004. Spinning wing decoys are only allowed after Nov. 30. The harvest of canvasbacks and pintails are allowed only under separate, 60-day seasons that run from Nov. 27, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004. Youth hunting days are Jan. 31 – Feb. 1, 2004. The goose season is from Oct. 18, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004. The limit is five per day, including no more than three white geese and three dark geese, one of which can be a small Canada goose.

The **Colorado River Zone** runs 101 days, from Oct. 17, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004. Spinning wing decoys are only allowed after Nov. 30. The pintail and canvasback seasons run from Nov. 27, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004. There is one youth hunting day, on Jan. 31, 2004. The goose season runs Oct. 17, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004. The limit is six per day, including no more than three white geese and three dark geese.

A summary of the 2003/2004 waterfowl hunting regulations will be available at DFG offices and license vendors statewide, and on the DFG home page at www.dfg.ca.gov.

While the late spring rains were a boon to waterfowl, they caused northern California rice crops to get off to a late start. Consequently, some state and federal areas in the Sacramento Valley will remain closed during the first two weeks of the waterfowl season to allow rice farmers to complete their crop harvest. According to Andrew Atkinson, Wildlife Habitat Supervisor II, the delayed opening of the wildlife refuges is consistent with their original dual purpose of providing winter habitat while at the same time providing relief from depredation of agricultural crops. "Given the persistent spring rains, late rice plantings and resulting delays in harvest, crop depredation is a significant concern this year. The rice industry, through the Sacramento Rice Advisory Committee (SRAC), requested that we delay the duck season on selected public hunting areas until after significant portions of the rice crop are harvested," said Atkinson.

The following areas will open to public hunting on Saturday, Nov. 1, 2003:

Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area	Colusa National Wildlife Refuge	Delevan National Wildlife Refuge
Gray Lodge Wildlife Area	Sutter National Wildlife Refuge	Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge
Upper Butte Basin Wildlife Area	1) Little Dry Creek Unit	2) Howard Slough Unit
		3) Llano Seco Unit

Still unknown is what impact the DFG's extreme budget constraints will have on waterfowl hunters at the state's wildlife areas. According to John Carlson, chief of the DFG's Wildlife Programs Branch, the challenge is to come up with ways to reduce operating costs without sacrificing hunter opportunity. "While there may be a reduction in some services we typically provide at the wildlife areas, we are doing everything we can to avoid actions that would reduce hunter opportunity, such as closing wildlife areas," said Carlson. Wildlife area managers are considering sending staff home during off-peak hours and instead making some wildlife areas "self serve," and discontinuing on-site sales of two-day permits to avoid the expense of meeting the state's staffing requirements for handling cash. **The DFG will announce any budget-related changes in service prior to the opening of waterfowl season via its Web site, located at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov>.**

2003 JOICE ISLAND PIG HUNT

The California Department of Fish and Game will be holding a limited-entry, permit-only pig hunt to control a small population of wild pigs on the Joice Island Unit of Grizzly Island Wildlife Area in Solano County. Joice Island is a 2150 acre wetland area consisting of thick cattails, tules, some brush and standing water. The first weekend of this hunting opportunity has been reserved for junior hunters. Two-day pig hunt permits will be issued by drawing only for the following weekends:

JUNIOR HUNTERS (12 & over w/Jr.Lic.) – March 6-7, 2004.

GENERAL (Adults or Juniors may apply) – March 13-14; March 20-21; March 27-28; April 3-4; and April 10-11, 2004.

Three hunters will be drawn for each of the six weekends, for a total of 18 hunters. The drawing for the 18 two-day permits will be held on February 18, 2004. Permits with maps and additional information will be mailed to successful applicants. A permit holder may bring one non-hunting partner. Hunters may use dogs for this hunt. **NOTE: ONLY SHOTGUNS USING SLUGS WILL BE ALLOWED FOR THIS HUNT.**

HOW TO APPLY FOR A PERMIT: Send a standard U.S. Postal Service postcard (available at local post offices), with the following information: Hunter name, hunting license #, address, phone #, and choose only one hunt date (junior hunters must also provide name of adult chaperone). Mail application card to: Joice Island Pig Hunt, 2548 Grizzly Island Road, Suisun CA 94585. **Application cards must be received by close of business, Tuesday, February 17, 2004. Each hunter may apply only one time and for only one date. Applications will be accepted for parties of up to two hunters, but the card must contain all information for both hunters. Incomplete cards and multiple entries will not be accepted. There is no fee to apply.**

CLAY SHOOT NEAR MARYSVILLE – JUNIOR PHEASANT HUNT FUNDRAISER

What: Clay Shoot at Timbuctoo Hunt Club east of Marysville. This clay shoot has clay pigeons coming from 10 directions. **All funds go to the Yuba County Fish and Game Commission Junior Pheasant Hunt on October 18 and 19, 2003.**

When: Sunday, October 5, 2003, 8AM – 1 PM.

Sign-up and information – If possible, call Eldon Hathaway at 530 755-1978 by September 29, or show up the morning of the event. Drinks and lunch provided. Bring your shotgun and at least 100 shotgun shells.

Cost and Location: \$100.00 and the Timbuctoo Club is located on the south side of the Yuba River downstream from the Parks Bar Bridge on Highway 20. Directional signs will be on Highway 20.

American River Salmon Festival October 11-12, 2003 10 am - 4 pm

Salmon BBQ	Children's Art, Game, Maze
Wildlife Demos	Guided Canoeing, Kayaking, &
Naturalist-led River Walks	River Otter Water Taxi Tours (fee)
Live Music	Meet Seemore Salmon
American Indian Demos	Storytelling, Puppetry, Skits
Fishing Clinics & Trout Plant	Pond Quest
Culinary Demos with Tastings	Fine Arts and Crafts
Living History	Exhibits and Speakers
Awesome Aquarium	Patio Boat Cruises
	Salmon Run/Walk (fee)



Free Admission (\$5.00 parking) 916-361-8700
Nimbus Fish Hatchery & Lake Natoma State Park
www.SALMONFESTIVAL.NET

SPECIAL 2003-2004 TURKEY HUNTS SCHEDULED AT LAKE SONOMA

TURKEY HUNTS

2003-2004: There are four, 2-day turkey hunts scheduled for the 2003-2004 season. Two hunts are scheduled for the fall of 2003, and two hunts for the spring of 2004.

Ten hunters will be drawn for each hunt, and each hunter can take one (1) hunting guest. Junior hunters must possess a Junior hunting license, and can take either another licensed junior hunter or a licensed adult hunter. Two Junior hunters must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult.

FALL 2003 TURKEY HUNTS:

Area 1: Adult Hunt: Saturday/Sunday, Nov 8 and 9, 2003

Area 2: JR Hunt: Saturday/Sunday, Nov 15 and 16, 2003

Drawing: All applications must be received in the Yountville Regional Office by 5:00 p.m. **Thursday, October 9, 2003.** The drawing will be held on Friday, **October 10, 2003.**

SPRING 2004 TURKEY HUNTS:

Area 1: JR Hunt: Saturday/Sunday, April 3 and 4, 2004

Area 2: Adult Hunt: Saturday/Sunday, March 27 and 28, 2004

Drawing: All applications must be received in the Yountville Regional Office by 5:00 p.m. **Thursday, February 26, 2004.** The drawing to be held on **Friday, February 27, 2004.**

Applications: Applicants may **apply for only one hunt day in each season.** Submit a standard Postal Service size post card (one name per card) with: **Name, Address, Telephone #, Hunting license #, and Hunt day requested.** Successful applicants will be notified by mail. Send applications to:

Lake Sonoma Turkey Hunt
P.O. Box 47

Yountville, CA 94599

Due to possible budget cuts, at press time there was still no news on whether the Pig Hunting Program will continue at Lake Sonoma. You can contact Allan Buckmann for more information as it becomes available (707) 944-5537.

VOLUNTEERS WITH TRAINED BIRD DOGS NEEDED

On October 18, 19, 25, 26 and November 1 & 2 there will be Junior Pheasant Hunts at the Nelson Slough Wildlife Area 25 miles north of Sacramento on Hwy 99.

Last year the Yuba and Sutter County Fish and Game Commissions **doubled** the number of pheasants purchased and the number of opportunities for juniors, women and mobility impaired hunters. This *unprecedented* hunting opportunity close to Sacramento is made possible because many sportspersons have volunteered themselves and their bird dogs to help the many young hunters without dogs. The Fish and Game Commissions try to match a volunteer and dog with every young hunter without a dog. The young hunters have been very appreciative and the volunteers know that they are helping to hand our hunting heritage to the next generation. Your help is needed. If you would like to help, even though you may not know what dates you are available, please call DFG Biologist Dale Whitmore at (530) 743-5068 and leave you
5 name, mailing address and phone number.

WHERE CAN I HUNT PHEASANTS AND/OR WATERFOWL?

Pheasant populations do well when grassy or weedy vegetation in fallow fields, ditch banks and other non-farmed areas is preserved for nesting and brood cover. Planting of vetch and other cover crops on idle farm land is beneficial to pheasants and other wildlife species. Corn stubble, grain straw, and other crop residues left in the fields over winter provide critical food and cover for pheasants and other wildlife. Cleaning only one side of a ditch leaves critical habitat for wildlife. Planting of perennial vegetation on levees, road corridors, field borders or other non-farmed areas will produce more pheasants.

The 2003 general statewide pheasant season is November 8, 2003 through December 21, 2003. Only male pheasants may be taken as follows: Two male pheasants per day for the first two days of the season and three male pheasants per day thereafter. Hunters may possess four male pheasants on the second day and six male pheasants on and after the third day of the hunting season. The shooting hours for pheasants shall be 8:00 a.m. to sunset.

In general, the Sacramento Valley pheasant brood survival was good where habitat is present because of the wetter than average spring. Hunting prospects are above average in most locations.

For landowners and land managers – So you want to grow more pheasants. Many people have noted that good annual crops of pheasants here in our Central Valley Mediterranean climate are generally produced by unusually late, wet springs or localized flooding. We now realize that plentiful and timely rainfall spreading moisture over wide areas creates brood cover with high numbers of insects. Brood cover mixed with nesting cover creates a plentiful food supply for the pheasant chicks. **The techniques for emulating Mother Nature are described in the 28 page 2002 Pheasant Workshop Summary Transactions. If you would like a free copy, please call the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area at 530 846-7500.**

(GAMEBIRD HERITAGE HUNTS – JUNIOR, WOMEN'S, FAMILY, AND WILD BIRD PHEASANT HUNTS – See articles in this edition.)

LICENSED GAME BIRD CLUBS

Licensed game bird clubs are private areas where released game birds are hunted. Some offer daily or multiple-bird hunting opportunities. There are Zone A and Zone B Clubs. Both hens and roosters are legal to hunt.

There are 2 basic options used in operating a Private Licensed Game Bird Club: 1) the Scheduled Field Method or 2) the Free Roaming System. The Scheduled Field Method often requires a call ahead and a request for a certain number of birds in your own field. Your card may be pre-punched for the number of birds you requested. The Free Roaming System is more flexible for the hunter in that their cards are punched only with the number of birds they actually take home. The hunter must be very ethical, not pass up hens and make every effort to retrieve slightly crippled pheasants or the price per bird may be higher under either system.

The following Zone A clubs are located in the Central Valley. The Zone A shooting season for pheasants shall commence on the Saturday nearest the 15th of October and extend for 114 consecutive days. For other domestically reared game birds (usually chukar and bobwhite quail), the Zone A shooting season begins on September 1 and ends on March 31 of the following year. Please contact the clubs for specifics about their operation.

CCF Hunting Club, 4229 Kathy Lane, Chico, CA 95973, 530 894-5555

Gaines Afton Ranch, PO Box 132, Durham, CA 95938, 530 882-4607.

H & H Gun Club, 3971 Keefer Road, Chico, CA 95973, 530 892-2582.

Quail Point Preserve, PO Box 848, Knights Landing, CA 95645, 530 735-6217.

Wyman Creek Pheasant Club, 320 Middle Honcut Road, Oroville, CA 95965, 530 846-0428.

Salt Creek Pheasant Club, PO Box 187, Williams CA 95987, 530 473-2333.

Dunnigan Pheasant Club, P.O. Box 200, Zamora, CA 95698, 530 662-0454.

Live Oak Gun Club, 421 Del Norte Ave., Yuba City, CA 95991, 530 671-5858.

South Butte Game Bird Club, P.O. Box 572, Sutter, CA 95982, 530 674-1064.

Garcia=s Pheasant Club, 3121 Humphrey Road, Loomis, CA 95650, 916 652-2395

Lakeview Farms Inc., 5490 Riosa Road West, Lincoln, CA 95648, 530 633-9112, 916 645-9117, LAKEVIEWFARMS@PRODIGY.COM.

Yankee Slough Hunt Club Inc., 3805 Hwy 65, Lincoln, CA 95648, 916 645-6028, FAX 916 645-1617.
Barsetti Hunt Club, 28568 N. Cherokee Lane, Galt, CA 95632, 209 368-6150.

Birds Limited, P.O. Box 646, Cool, CA 95614, 530 823-9310

Cahoon Pheasant Club, 31249 E. Combs Road, Escalon, CA 95320, 209 838-6085.

Big Valley Hunting Club, 13581 Canada Street, La Grange, CA 95329, 209 563-0047.

Pheasant Valley Hunting Club, 4240 Carter Road, Farmington, CA 95230, 209 886-5109

The following Zone B clubs are located throughout California, other than the Central Valley. The Zone B shooting season shall commence on September 1 and close May 31. Please contact the clubs individually for the specifics of their operation.

Moore Hunt Club, PO Box 57, Lookout, CA 96054, (60 miles W of Alturas), 530 294-5586.

Red Bank Ale & Quail, PO Box 8295, Red Bluff, CA 96080, 530 529-9435, FAX 530 529-9627.

Romero Ranch Hunt Club, PO Box 517, Likely, CA 96116, 530 233-4938.

Dash Ranch, 12999 Oak Run Road, Oak Run, CA 96069, 530 472-3145.

Rising Sun Hunt Preserve, 8300 Holzhauser Road, Dorris, CA 96023, 530 397-3621.

Sky Mountain Game Bird Club, 6931 Andrews Road, Dorris, CA 96023, 530 397-2235.

Clear Creek Sports Club, 5714 Anita Road, Chico, CA 95973, 530 343-3364.

Birds Landing Hunt Preserve, PO Box 5, Birds Landing, CA 94512, 707 374-5092.

Black Point Sports Club, 7711 Lakeville Hwy, Petaluma, CA 94954, 707 763-0076.

Garcia's Hunting Preserve (Yolo County), P.O. Box 1257, Loomis, CA 95650, 916 652-2395.

Hastings Island Hunting Preserve, 7758 Hastings Island Road, Rio Vista, CA 94571-1026, 707 678-3325, FAX 707 678-1604.

North Branch Hunting Preserve, 3387 Highway 12, San Andreas, CA 95249, 209 754-4903.

Potter Valley Sportsmen, 6950 Hwy 20, Ukiah, CA 95482, 707 485-5188.

Suisun Marsh Hunting Preserve, PO Box 698, Fairfield, CA 94533, 707 425-4158.

Thunderhill Pheasant Club, 5150 Highway 162, Willows, CA 95988, 530 934-2146.

Comanche Hills Hunting Preserve, Inc., 2951 Curran Road, Lone, CA 95640, 209 763-5270.

FEE FOR ACCESS CLUBS - These clubs offer sportsmen access to a wide variety of land for all types of hunting. Usually you will find low hunter density on exclusive land that is accessible only through reservations. Depending on the club, hunting opportunities can include bird, waterfowl, and big game hunting.

Butte City Hunting Club, 1559 County Road Z, Butte City, CA 95920, 530 982-0234.

Golden Ram, Inc. Sportsmen's Club, 321 Endless Court, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762, (916) 941-7880, FAX (916) 941-7868, info@GoldenRamHunting.com

Richmond Hunting Club, PO Box 20786, El Sobrante, CA 94820-0786, (510) 741-8055.

Wilderness Unlimited, 20974 Corsair Blvd., Hayward, CA 94545, 510 785-4868.

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TYPE A WILDLIFE AREAS AND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES

Commonly asked questions about how I get access to the Type A state wildlife areas and federal wildlife refuges for pheasant or waterfowl hunting?

How do I apply for a reservation? Official applications are available to the public through license agents and department offices. Applicants can purchase either a \$1.05 application card or a \$5.25 application card to apply for either 1 hunt day or 5 hunt days, or may apply for every available Saturday, Sunday, and/or Wednesday hunt date for one or more areas by completing a season-long application card and returning it with the appropriate payment to the License and Revenue Branch. To be included in the drawing, the completed application must be received in the License and Revenue Branch, 3211 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95816, or at the address indicated on the application at least 17 days before the hunt date requested.

Hunters may apply for a reservation as many times per season as desired but no more than once for each area for each shoot day. A reservation shall assure entry for up to six persons including the person in whose name the reservation was issued. No more than two persons may be hunters who have adult licenses. **Each person who is a least 18 years of age may be accompanied by up to two hunters holding junior hunting licenses or two non-shooters or one of each.** Northern California exceptions: At the Sacramento and Delevan National Wildlife Refuges, each reservation assures entry for up to four individuals, whether adult hunters, junior hunters, or non-shooters. Numbered reservations will be honored in numerical order, starting at the time the check station opens.

How can I hunt one of the Type A state wildlife areas and federal wildlife refuges if I do not have a reservation? The Type A refuges and wildlife areas are operated with the following 2 basic procedures:

1. Lottery Drawing for First-come, first-served list - Sacramento, Delevan, and Colusa NWR's, Upper Butte Basin WA(Little Dry Creek Unit), and Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area - Hunters without reservations may register at the checking station between 6 pm and 8 pm for a drawing. The drawing will be held at 8:00 PM on the evening (Tues., Fri., and Sat.) before each hunt day. The results of the drawing will establish the order of sale of entry permits to fill existing vacancies in the hunter quota. Non-reservation hunters

COMMUNITY PHEASANT HUNTING AREAS

These hunting co-operatives are usually operated as a fund raiser for community projects. Most operate only during the pheasant season, and all Fish and Game regulations apply. Pen raised pheasants augment the natural populations on these private lands. Hunters pay a nominal fee (usually \$75-140). Members receive a map of the available lands and there are usually no field assignments or check in/out requirements. You just go hunting!

Glenn Pheasant Association, Kathy Withrow, PO Box 6, Glenn, CA 95943, (530) 934-3606

Willows Pheasant Association, Julie Holvik, PO Box 306, Willows, CA 95988 (530) 934-3695

Willows Elks Pheasant Club, 150 South Shasta St. Willows, CA 95988 (530) 934-4321

Richvale Hunting Area, PO Box 96, Richvale, CA 95974 (530) 882-4263

Yolo Sportsmen's Association, PO Box 82, Woodland CA 95776 (530) 662-2349

Knights Landing Sportsmen's Club, Inc, PO Box 547, Knights Landing, CA 95645 (530) 662-3372

Meridian Pheasant Association, Tom Teesdale, PO Box 305, Meridian, CA 95957 (530) 696-2539

Friends of Clarksburg Youth, Kathy Merwin, PO Box 66, Clarksburg, CA 95612 (916) 744-1376

Stockton Sportsmen's Club, PO Box 1364, Stockton, CA 95201 (209) 957-9717 or (707) 554-6037 Check station is at the corner of Airport Way and McMullin Road about 6 miles southwest of Manteca.

arriving after 8:00 PM will be assigned a first-come, first-served number. **Overnight parking is allowed, but not required, at all check stations except Yolo Bypass WA where overnight parking is not allowed.** *Exception - Yolo Bypass WA - Hunters without reservations may register at the area headquarters 2 miles west of the hunter check station on County Road 32-B (Chiles Road) between 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM on Tuesday and Friday before each hunt day to participate in a lottery drawing that will be held at 6:00 PM. On Saturday afternoon the lottery is held at the check station at 6 p.m.*

2. First-come, first served line - Grizzly Island and Gray Lodge WA's, Upper Butte Basin WA (Howard Slough and Llano Seco Units) and Sutter NWR Hunters without a reservation may obtain a first-come, first-served number starting at 4:00 PM the day before the hunt except for the Howard Slough and Llano Seco Units where the first-come, first served line is established at 6 p.m.. **After receiving a number, hunters must remain in the parking lot until a permit is purchased in the morning.**

Can I use lead shot to hunt pheasants at the Type A areas - At Grizzly Island WA; Sacramento, Delevan, Colusa, and Sutter NWR's only steel or other nontoxic shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may be used or possessed in the field. Gray Lodge, Yolo Bypass, and Upper Butte Basin WA's allow the use of lead shot if you are hunting Upland Game ONLY.

Sutter National Wildlife Refuge - Hunter capacity is 70 - **Pheasant hunting is on waterfowl shoot days during the pheasant season. For info call 530 934-2801. Location and Access** - Area is twelve miles southwest of Yuba City. From Yuba City travel south on Highway 99 for 6 miles to Oswald Road, turn west, proceed for 5 ½ miles to the check station. **Reservations:** Available during the waterfowl season and pheasant season. **Check Station:** During the waterfowl season the check station will open at least two hours before shooting time. *Reservations must be presented at the check station one hour before waterfowl shooting time.*

Colusa National Wildlife Refuge - Hunter capacity is 80. **Pheasant hunting is on waterfowl shoot days during the pheasant season. For info call 530 934-2801. Location and Access:** **Check Station Location located on Ware Road between Ohm and Lone Star Roads** Approximately five miles east of Williams. Traveling on Interstate 5, turn east 2 miles south of Williams on Husted Road, proceed north one mile to Able Road, then right or east three miles to Lone Star Road, then right or south two miles to Ware Road. Turn left or east for 1 ½ miles to the check station. Traveling on Hwy 20, turn south about 4 miles west of Colusa or about 5 miles east of I-5 onto Lone Star Road, then 5 1/2 miles south to Ware Road. Turn left or east for 1 1/2 miles to the checking station. **Reservations:** Available during the waterfowl and pheasant season. **Check Station:** During waterfowl season the check station will be open at least two hours before shooting time. *Reservations must be presented at the check station by one hour before waterfowl shooting time.* **Lottery Drawing for First-come, first-served list.**

Delevan National Wildlife Refuge - Hunter capacity: 29 hunting sites (4-person), with a maximum area capacity of 112 hunters in blinds, and 60 in the non-blind area. **Pheasant hunting is on the first Monday of pheasant season and on waterfowl shoot days during the pheasant season. For info call 530 934-2801. Location and Access:** About 5 miles east of Maxwell. Traveling on Interstate 5, turn east at the town of Maxwell on the Maxwell-Colusa Road and proceed about 3 3/4 miles to the graveled Four Mile Road, then north (left) two miles to the check station. From Colusa, travel north on the Colusa-Princeton Road five miles, then west on the Colusa-Maxwell Road 4 miles to the graveled Four Mile Road. Proceed north (right) 2 miles to the check station. **Reservations:** Available during the waterfowl and pheasant seasons. **Check Station:** During waterfowl season the check station will be open at least two hours before shooting time. *Reservations must be presented at the check station by one hour before waterfowl shooting time.* Non-reserved entry permits will be issued at the check station on hunting day. **Lottery Drawing for First-come, first-served list. First Monday** - No reservations will be issued for the first Monday of the pheasant season when only pheasants may be hunted. Hunters may register for a drawing on Sunday between 9:00AM and 4:00 PM. A drawing will be held on Sunday at 4:00 PM to establish order of entry. Lottery procedures will be followed.

NOTE: On Saturday, December 20, 2003 all blinds are reserved for junior hunters. Adult hunters may use the free-roam areas.

Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge - Hunter capacity: 46 hunting sites (4-person), with a maximum area capacity of 184 hunters in blinds, and 75 in the non-blind area. **Pheasant hunting is on the first Monday of pheasant season and on waterfowl shoot days during the pheasant season. For info call 530 934-2801. Location and Access:** About seven miles south of Willows. From Willows, travel south on Interstate 5 about seven miles to the junction with the Princeton offramp: turn east, proceed one mile to checking station. From Maxwell, travel north on Interstate 5 for eight miles; turn east (right) on the Princeton off ramp and proceed one mile to checking station. Caution: Chest waders are highly recommended. **Reservations:** Available during the waterfowl and pheasant seasons. **Check Station:** During waterfowl season the checking station will be open at least two hours before shooting time. *Reservations must be presented at the check station by one and one-half hours before waterfowl shooting time.* Non-reserved entry permits will be issued at the check station on hunting day. **Lottery Drawing for First-come, first-served list. First Monday** - No reservations will be issued for the first Monday of the pheasant season when only pheasants may be hunted. Hunters may register for a drawing on Sunday between 9:00AM and 4:00 PM. A drawing will be held on Sunday at 4:00 PM to establish order of entry. Lottery procedures will be followed. NOTE: On Saturday, December 13, 2003 all blinds are reserved for junior hunters. Adult hunters may use the free-roam areas.

Gray Lodge Wildlife Area -9,167 acres - Hunter capacity is 400 - **Pheasant hunting is every day during the first nine days of pheasant season. Thereafter, during the regular pheasant season, pheasant hunting will be allowed only on Saturdays, Sundays, and Wednesdays.** **Location and Access** - From the town of Gridley (on Highway 99) proceed five miles west on the Gridley-Colusa Road, turn south (left) on Pennington Road and travel 3 miles to the checking station. From Live Oak, travel west on Pennington Road 8 1/2 miles through Pennington, then north(right) on Almond Orchard Road for 2 miles to the checking station. **Reservations:** Available during the waterfowl and pheasant seasons. **Check Station:** During waterfowl season the check station will be open at least two hours before shooting time. *Reservations must be presented at the check station by one hour before waterfowl shooting time.* During pheasant season reservations will be honored on waterfowl shoot days with vacancies being filled on a first-come, first-served basis. On non-waterfowl shoot days quotas shall be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. **Call 530 846-7500 for info.**

Upper Butte Basin Wildlife Area - 9,208 acres - Hunter capacity: Llano Seco Unit is 30; Howard Slough Unit is 50; and the Little Dry Creek Unit is 80 - **Pheasant hunting is every day during the first five days of pheasant season, and on waterfowl hunt days during the remainder of pheasant season.** **Location and Access** - Llano Seco Unit - From Highway 99 north of Gridley, take Highway 162 west about 13 miles to Z Road. Go north on Z Road (it becomes 7 Mile Road in Butte County) about 6.5 miles to the check station sign on the left or west side of the road. Howard Slough Unit - Located about 11 miles west of Highway 99 on Highway 162. Checking station is on Road ZZ, one mile north of Highway 162. Little Dry Creek Unit - 11 miles west of Gridley on the Gridley-Colusa Highway. Check station on the north side of the road and east of Butte Creek. **Reservations:** Available during the waterfowl and pheasant season for Howard Slough and Little Dry Creek units, No reservations available for the Llano Seco Unit. **Check Station:** During waterfowl season the check stations will be open at least two hours before shooting time. **Call 530 982-2169 for info.**

Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area - 3700 acres - Hunter capacity is 50, reservations get first priority. Daily hunter quota will be filled by the following order: 1) reservations, 2) lottery numbers, 3) first-come, first-served numbers. **Pheasant hunting is on waterfowl hunt days during the pheasant season. Good pheasant numbers.** **Location and Access:** About 3 miles east of Davis (4 miles west of West Sacramento) off Interstate 80. From eastbound I-80, take East Chiles Road exit and travel east 1/4 mile to the west levee access. From westbound I-80, take Frontage Road exit immediately west of the west end of the Yolo Causeway, turn right at stop sign and head south under freeway to west levee access. **Reservations:** Available during the waterfowl and pheasant seasons. **Check Station:** During approved hunting seasons, the parking lot and check station will open two hours before shooting time. **Overnight parking is not permitted.** Hunters without reservations or lottery numbers will be assigned first-come, first-served numbers beginning two hours before shooting time at the hunter check station which is located within the Yolo Bypass. **Call 530 757-2461 for info.**

Grizzly Island Wildlife Area - Hunter capacity is 350 - **Pheasant hunting is each day during the first 12 days of the general pheasant season, and only on Saturdays, Sundays, and Wednesdays during the remainder of the pheasant season. Rabbit hunting is allowed daily during most of July and on pheasant hunt days. Dove hunting is available on pheasant hunt days during the late dove season.** **Location and Access:** Within the Suisun Marsh about 10 miles southeast of Fairfield. From the cities of Fairfield or Rio Vista on Highway 12, turn south on Grizzly Island Road one mile east of Fairfield and proceed south 10 miles to the area headquarters. **Reservations:** Available for hunting waterfowl with vacancies being filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Pheasant hunters may have reservations on waterfowl shoot days with vacancies being filled on a first-come, first-served basis. On non-waterfowl shoot days quotas will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. **Check Station:** Grizzly Island Unit check station opens at least two hours before shooting time. *Reservations must be presented at the check station by one hour before waterfowl shooting time.* Call 707 425-3828 for info.

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TYPE C WILDLIFE AREAS - No check stations

Sutter Bypass Wildlife Area - Hunting every day - 4,034 acres along the levee on much of both sides of the Sutter Bypass and the Tisdale Bypass. Other game includes waterfowl, dove, quail, tree squirrels, rabbits, coyotes, crows, ground squirrels and wild turkey. The Tisdale Bypass is the main hunting area and is located about 10 miles south of the town of Sutter, where Reclamation Road crosses the Tisdale Weir. Waterfowl, rabbit, pheasant, quail, dove, tree squirrel, wild turkey, coyote, and deer hunting are available. *Shotguns and archery equipment only.* For a map call (916) 358-2900.

Nelson Slough Wildlife Area - Hunting every day from July 1 through January 31 and during spring turkey season - 800 acres under the Highway 99-Feather River Bridge 23 miles north of Sacramento and 17 miles south of Yuba City. A Sutter-Yuba Junior Pheasant Hunt usually takes place here on the weekend before pheasant season. Access is either east or west of Highway 99 on Sacramento Avenue. Sacramento Avenue is one mile north of the Feather River Bridge near Nicolaus. Waterfowl, rabbit, quail, dove, tree squirrel, dove, wild turkey, coyote, and deer hunting also available. *Shotguns and archery equipment only.* For a map call (916) 358-2900.

Oroville Wildlife Area - 11,371 acres - Hunting every day from September 1 - January 31 and spring turkey season. Spring turkey hunting is by drawing only. Best pheasant hunting is around the Thermolito Afterbay. The Oroville Junior Pheasant Hunt usually takes place on the 2nd Saturday of pheasant season near the Thermolito Afterbay. The Afterbay is located between Highway's 99 and 70 about 4.5 miles west of Oroville on Highway 162. Waterfowl, rabbit, quail, dove, tree squirrel, dove, chukar, bobwhite, coyote, and deer hunting also available. Spring wild turkey hunting by drawing only. *No fall turkey hunting. Shotguns and archery equipment only.* Call 530 538-2236 for info.

Colusa Bypass Wildlife Area - Hunting every day - 1,248 acres 1 ½ miles north of Colusa. From Colusa, go north on River Road for 1 ½ miles, then east on Laux Road for 1 ½ miles to the north side of the wildlife area. *Shotguns and archery equipment only.* For a map call 916 358-2900.

O'Connor Lakes/Abbott Lake Wildlife Areas - Hunting July 1 to January 31 and spring turkey season - 910 acres. Located about 10 miles south of Yuba City and 25 miles north of Sacramento. Walk in access at the end of Star Bend Road off Garden Highway in Sutter County. Star Bend Road is located 2 mile north of the intersection of Highway 99 and Garden Highway near the Tudor area. Waterfowl, rabbit, quail, dove, tree squirrel, dove, wild turkey, coyote, and deer hunting also available. *Shotguns and archery equipment only.* For a map call (916) 358-2900.

Lake of the Woods and Star Bend Wildlife Areas - Hunting July 1 to January 31 and spring turkey season - 750 acres. Located about 10 miles south of Marysville and 25 miles north of Sacramento on Feather River Boulevard. Walk in access from the Star Bend Boat Ramp parking lot. The 700 acre Lake of the Woods WA begins 3/10 of a mile south of the Star Bend Boat Ramp and extends 5 miles south to the Bear River. The 50 acre Star Bend WA begins 4/10 of a mile upstream of the Star Bend Boat Ramp. Waterfowl, rabbit, quail, dove, tree squirrel, dove, wild turkey, coyote, and deer hunting also available. *Shotguns and archery equipment only.* For a map call (916) 358-2900.

Fremont Weir Wildlife Area - 212 acres - Hunting everyday from September 1 through January 31 - 212 acres. Travel north on Road 102 from Interstate 5 near Woodland for 5 miles and turn right on Road 16 for 2.5 miles. Then turn left on Road 116 for 2 miles to Road 116A and the wildlife area. Waterfowl, rabbit, dove, and crow hunting are also available. *Shotguns and archery equipment only.* For a map call 916 358-2900.

White Slough Wildlife Area - Hunting everyday from September 1 through January 31- 880 acres. Four separate parcels about 8 miles west of Lodi. Pond 5 Area is north of Woodbridge Road; Pond 6 Area is north of Woodbridge road is closed to hunting; Ponds 7 and 8 are east of Guard Road; and Ponds 9 through 13 are along the frontage road on the west side of Highway 5. Waterfowl, quail, dove, and dove hunting are also available. *Shotguns and archery equipment only.* For a map call (916) 358-2900.

Napa-Sonoma Marshes State Wildlife Area - Located west and north of State 37 near the City of Vallejo, east and south of Highway 121 near the cities of Sonoma and Napa. The majority of the area is accessed by boat via the Napa River, Sonoma Creek, Napa Slough, Hudeman Slough and other tributary sloughs. **Hunt Days:** Saturdays, Sundays, and Wednesdays during open seasons for waterfowl, coots, moorhens, snipe, rabbits, pheasants, and doves. Doves and rabbits may also be hunted everyday during the September dove season. *Shotguns and archery equipment only.* For a map call (916) 358-2900.

Editors Note - If you notice any errors or omissions with this article, please call 530 846-7500 or 530 743-5068 and leave a message with the name of the article and the comment.

Region 1, No. California, North Coast Junior/Women's Pheasant Hunts

Junior Pheasant Hunt at Honey Lake Wildlife Area, Lassen Co. Sept 20 and 21, 2003; am and pm each day. Quota – 25, total 100. Send the following info to: Lassen County Junior Pheasant Hunt, c/o Pheasants Forever, P.O. Box 358, Susanville, CA 96130. Include: names/address/phone/ license #'s/of the Jr hunters /list hunt place, dates and times in order of preference. Quota – 100. Info: Call (530) 254-6644

Women's Pheasant Hunt at Honey Lake Wildlife Area, Lassen Co. Oct. 18, 2002; Send info to: Honey Lake WA Women's Pheasant Hunt 728-600 Fish and Game Road, Wendel CA 96136. Include: names/address/phone/ license #'s/of the woman's hunters /list hunt place, dates and times in order of preference. Quota – 40. Drawing on Oct. 4. Info: Call (530) 254-6644

Shasta Valley Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Siskiyou Co. Nov 15, 2003, 8am and 1pm; Quota – 50. Send postcard/ 3x5 card w/ name, address, phone #. license # and preference for am or pm hunt to Shasta Valley WA, 1724 Ball Mt-Shasta Valley Road, Montague CA 96064. Info: (530) 459-3926

Lake Earl Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Del Norte Co. Nov 15 and 16, 2003; Send postcard/3x5 card w/ name, address, phone #, age, license # and preference for which day to Lake Earl WA, PO Box 1934, Crescent City, CA 95531. Apps between Oct. 1 – Nov. 6 are on first come basis. Quota – 65 Info: (707) 464-2523

Eel River Wildlife Area Women's Pheasant Hunt, Humboldt Co. November 2, 2003 Deadline Oct. 17.

Eel River Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Humboldt Co. November 22 and 23, 2003; AM and PM hunts. Deadline Oct. 24. Quota – 150

Send postcard w/ name, address, phone #. license # and preference for dates/times to DFG, 619 2nd St., Eureka CA 95501. Info: (707) 441-5789 or (707) 725-3637 or (707) 441-5788. Group applications should be stapled together.

Shasta County Sportsmen's Junior Pheasant Hunt, Tehama County (Junior and Women's hunts on the "Bend Area" of the Sacramento River Recreation Area north of Red Bluff) When: Nov 8 and 9, 2003, 8 am and 1 pm both days. Deadline: Oct. 17. Quota 100.

What: **Shasta County Sportsmen's Women's Pheasant Hunt**, Tehama County

When: Nov 22, 2003, 8 am and 1 pm. Deadline: Oct. 30 Quota 50. Info: (530) 597-2201

Send postcard w/ name, address, phone #. license #, date of birth for Jrs, and preference for am or pm hunt to Tehama WA, PO Box 188, Paynes Creek, CA 96075. Info: (530) 597-2201.

Free Northern California Wildlife Area Maps

Free maps for the following public lands **are available** at 1) Dept. of Fish and Game, 1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 (916) 358-2900, 2) DFG Licenses, 3211 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95816. The following maps are available as a booklet: Tehama WA-Tehama Co., Sacramento River WA - Glenn/Butte/Colusa Co., White Slough WA - San Joaquin Co., New Hogan Lake - Calaveras Co., Oroville WA - Butte Co., Putah Creek WA - Solano Co., Indian Valley WA - Colusa/Lake Co., Black Butte Lake - Tehama/Glenn Co., Abbott/O'Connor Lakes Units - Sutter Co., Nelson Slough Unit - Sutter Co., Sacramento Bypass WA - Sacramento County, Lake of the Woods Unit - Yuba Co., Sutter Bypass WA - Sutter Co., Colusa Bypass WA- Colusa Co., Fremont Weir WA- Yolo Co., Auburn State Recreation Area- Placer Co., Daugherty Hill WA - Yuba Co., Spenceville WA - Yuba/Nevada Co., Clifton Court Forebay - Contra Costa Co., Napa-Sonoma Marshes WA, Sacramento Valley Waterfowl Area Map, Gray Lodge WA - Butte Co., Clear Lake Area Public Lands Maps, Boggs Mtn State Forest, Jackson State Forest, Gray Lodge WA- Butte Co., Upper Butte Basin WA- Butte Co., Yolo Bypass WA- Yolo Co., Grizzly Island WA - Solano Co., and the Delevan, Colusa, Sutter, and Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuges. There are also plans for making wood duck and bluebird boxes.

2003 Gamebird Heritage Wild Bird, Women's and Family Pheasant Hunts - Northern California and Central Coast

We appreciate your interest in the Wild Bird, Women's and Family Pheasant Hunts. Below is some information on the hunts and how the application process works. These special hunts are sponsored by the Department of Fish and Game and local community groups/sportsmen organizations. There is no fee for applying or participating. Hunts are open to anyone holding a current California Hunting License.

Hunters are selected by random computer drawing. All postcard entries for a special pheasant hunt must be received by the posted deadline date. All applications received by the deadline have an equal chance of being selected. Late applications will be considered on a first come-first served basis, only if there are still spaces available. Only permit holders will be allowed to hunt. No hunters will be taken on a first come-first served basis on the day of the hunt.

Applicants for these hunts may submit one postcard for each hunt area. List the date and times you wish to hunt by preference. Submitting more than one application for a hunt will result in a disqualification of the applicant.

Up to 4 hunters may apply as a party. Applicants who wish to hunt together should apply on one postcard. All applicants place: names, address, phone #, desired hunt date and time, and license #'s on a 4x6 postcard. Applicants will only be considered for hunt dates/times they select. If no 2nd, 3rd or 4th choices are made, the applicant will only be considered for one hunt. Successful applicants will be mailed a permit, map and specific information about the hunt 10-14 days prior to the hunt.

Where: Little Dry Creek Family Pheasant Hunt (Upper Butte Basin WA, Little Dry Creek Unit, Butte Co.)

When: Sun, Nov 9; **Deadline:** Wed, Oct 22

How to Apply: Send application on 4x6 postcard to DFG, 1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Include: name and license #'s for up to 4 hunters with hunt place and a contact address and phone #. Family application must have 2 or more hunters, a junior is encouraged. **Quota:** 50 total. **Contact:** (916) 358-2877

Where: Sierra Valley Women's Pheasant Hunt (Green Gulch Ranch, Plumas County)

When: Sat Oct 18, am, pm. **Deadline:** Wed, Oct 1

How to Apply: Send application on 4x6 postcard to DFG, 1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Include: name and license #'s for up to 4 hunters with hunt place, date, time and a contact address and phone #.

Quota: 15 per hunt /30 total. **Contact:** (530) 288-3634 or (916) 358-2877

Where: Delta Islands Women's Pheasant Hunt (Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta)

When: Sun, Nov 9. **Deadline:** Wed, Oct 22

How to Apply: Send 4x6 postcard to Bay-Delta Division, 4001 North

Wilson Way, Stockton, CA 94205 or internet - <http://www/delta.dfg.ca.gov>

Include: name and license #'s for up to 4 hunters, a contact address and phone #.

Quota: 50 total. **Contact:** (209) 948-7800

Where: Sutter-Yuba Women's Pheasant Hunt

When: Oct. 18 am, 19 am and Oct 26 am/pm, 27 am/pm

How to Apply: Send application or a 4x6 postcard to: 1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Include: name and license #'s of up to 4 hunters on one postcard/list hunt place, date, time and a contact address and phone #. Late applications accepted if hunts are not full. **Deadline:** 18 days before each hunt weekend. Call (916) 358-2877 for info.

Where: Delta Islands **Wild Bird Public Pheasant Hunts**

When: Nov 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29, Dec 3, 6, 10

Deadline: App. must be received 17 days before the hunt date

How to Apply: Send 4x6 postcard to Bay-Delta Div., 4001 No. Wilson Way, Stockton, CA 94205 or internet - <http://www/delta.dfg.ca.gov>

Must include: name and license #'s of up to 4 hunters per card with contact address and phone #, hunt place, and dates you are applying for.

Quota: 50 permits per hunt, 400 total. **Contact:** (209) 948-7800

Where: SE Fremont Weir **Wild Bird Public Pheasant Hunt**, Yolo Co

When: Nov 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29, Dec. 3, 6

Deadlines: Nov 8 (Oct 22), Nov 12/15 (Oct 29), Nov 19 (Nov 5), Nov 22 (Nov 7), Nov 26/29 (Nov 12) and Dec 3/6 (Nov 19).

How to Apply: Send application or 4x6 postcard to: DFG, 1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Include: name and license #'s for up to 4 hunters with hunt place, contact address and phone #, and all dates you are applying for. **Quota:** 40 permits per hunt, 360 total **Contact:** (916) 358-2877

What: **Grizzly Island Women's Pheasant Hunt** will be held Saturday, December 6, 2003 at Grizzly Island Wildlife Area. A special area will be reserved for this women's wild bird pheasant hunt. 15 hunt participants will be chosen by random drawing. Any properly licensed female hunter may apply by sending in a standard postcard to: Grizzly Island Women's Pheasant Hunt, 2548 Grizzly Island Road, Suisun, CA 94585. Postcard must include the hunter's Name, Address, Phone Number, and Hunting License Number. Hunt applicants may apply as a party of two by including all information for both hunters on one postcard. Only one entry per hunter will be allowed. **Deadline:** Nov 14, 2003 **Contact:** (707) 425-3828

MOBILITY IMPAIRED AND JUNIOR PHEASANT HUNTS

Where: Birds Limited Licensed Game Bird Club near Pleasant Grove (20 miles north of Sacramento). By appointment from Nov. 8, 2003 – Jan 25, 2004. No charge for mobility impaired adults/juniors, reduced rate of \$15.00/pheasant for juniors. Call (530) 823-9310.

Where: Sutter-Yuba Junior Disabled Pheasant Hunt located at the Nelson Slough Wildlife Area 23 miles north of Sacramento.

When: Nov. 1 am and Nov 2 am.

How to Apply: See Sutter-Yuba Junior/Women's Hunt above, Apply on general application or by postcard. Call (530) 743-5068 or (916) 358-2877 for info.

2003 Gamebird Heritage Junior Pheasant Hunts – Sacramento Valley, Central Sierra Region and Central Coast Region

We appreciate your interest in the Junior Pheasant Hunts. Below is some information on the hunts and how the application process works. Junior pheasant hunts are sponsored by the Department of Fish and Game and local community groups/sportsmen organizations. There is no fee for applying or participating. Hunts are open to anyone holding a current California Junior Hunting License.

Hunters are selected by random computer drawing. All postcard entries for a junior pheasant hunt must be received by the posted deadline date. All applications received by the deadline have an equal chance of being selected. Late applications will be considered on a first come-first served basis, only if there are still spaces available.

Only permit holders will be allowed to hunt. No junior hunters will be taken on a first come-first served basis on the day of the hunt. Each hunt area is drawn separately. Only one postcard per hunt area may be submitted. Submitting more than one application for a hunt will result in a disqualification of the applicant.

For most hunts, up to 4 junior hunters may apply as a party. Applicants who wish to hunt together should apply on one postcard. All applicants place: names, address, phone #, desired hunt date and time, and license #'s on a 4x6 postcard. Applicants will only be considered for hunt dates/times they select. In no 2nd, 3rd or 4th choices are made, the applicant will only be considered for one hunt. Successful applicants will be mailed a permit, map and specific information about the hunt 10-14 days prior to the hunt.

Where: Sierra Valley, (Headwaters Preserve, Plumas Co.)

When: Sat., Oct. 18 am/pm and Sun. Oct. 19 am. Deadline: Wed. Oct. 1, 2003

How to Apply: Send 4x6 postcard or application to: 1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Include: names/address/phone/license #'s/up to 4 hunters on one postcard/list hunt place, dates and times in order of preference.
Quota: 20 each hunt period – 60 total. **Contact:** (916) 358-2877

Where: Little Dry Creek (UBBWA, Butte Co.)

When: Sat. Nov. 15 am and Sun. Nov. 16 am. Deadline: Wed. Oct. 30

How to Apply: Send 4x6 postcard or application to: 1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Include: names/address/phone/license #'s/up to 4 hunters on one postcard/list hunt place, dates and times in order of preference.
Quota: 50 each hunt period – 100 total. **Contact:** (916) 358-2877

Where: Oroville (Thermolito Afterbay, Oroville WA, Butte Co)

When: Sat. Nov. 22 am and pm. Deadline: Wed. Oct. 29

How to Apply: Send 4x6 postcard or application to: 1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Include: names/address/phone/license #'s/up to 4 hunters on one postcard/list hunt place, dates and times in order of preference.
Quota: 50 each hunt period – 100 total. **Contact:** (916) 358-2877

Where: Llano Seco Ranch (Llano Seco Ranch, Sacramento NWR, Butte Co) **When:** Sun, Dec 14, am Deadline: Nov 1-30

How to Apply: Send 4x6" postcard to: Sacramento NWR, 752 Co. Rd. 99W, Willows, Ca 95988. Include: name and license # of up to 4 hunters with contact address and phone #.
Quota: 25 total **Contact:** (530)934-2801

Where: Gray Lodge (closed zone of Gray Lodge WA, Butte Co)

When: Sat, Nov 15. Deadline: Wed. Oct. 29. **How to Apply:** Send 4x6 postcard or application to: 1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, CA. 95670. Include: name and license #'s of up to 4 hunters on one postcard/list hunt place and a contact address and phone #. **Quota:** 25 total. **Contact:** (530) 846-7500.

Where: Sutter-Yuba Junior/Disabled Junior Pheasant Hunts and Sutter-Yuba Women's Pheasant Hunts at the Nelson Slough Wildlife Area.

When: Sat. Oct. 18 am, and Sun. Oct. 19 am, (Juniors&Women); Sat. Oct. 25 am/pm, and Sun. Oct. 26, am/pm (Juniors& Women) Sat. and Sun. Nov. 1, 2 am (Junior Disabled)
Sat. Nov 1 am/pm, and Sun. Nov. 2 am/pm (Juniors)

How to Apply: Send application or a 4x6 postcard to: 1701

Nimbus Road, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Include: name and license #'s of up to 4 hunters on one postcard/list hunt place, date,time and a contact address and phone #. Late applications accepted if hunts are not full. Deadline: 18 days before each hunt weekend.

Quota: 65 each hunt, 650 total.

Where: Stockton Sportsmen's Club (Manteca, San Joaquin Co) Located between Hwy 99 and Interstate 5. Go south of Hwy 120 on Airport Rd and turn right on McMullen Ave for 3/4 mile.

When: All of pheasant season except for closing weekend

How to Apply: Juniors hunt free, no application necessary, Call (707) 554-6037 or (209) 957-9717 with questions.

Where: Delta Islands (Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta)

When: Sat, Nov 15 & Sun, Nov 16. Deadline: Wed., Oct. 29

How to Apply: Send 4x6" postcard to: Bay-Delta Division CDFG, 4001 No. Wilson, Stockton, CA 94205 or apply on line at www.delta.dfg.ca.gov.

Include: names and license #'s of up to 4 hunters on one postcard with contact address and phone #, and hunt date. Please apply for one date only.

Quota: 50 each hunt period, 100 total. **Contact:** (209) 948-7800

Where: Yolo Bypass WA (held on Yolo Basin WA, Yolo Co.)

When: Sat, Nov 15 am. Deadline: Wed., Oct. 30

How to Apply: Send application or 4x6" postcard to: 1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Include: names and license #'s/up to 4 hunters on one postcard/list hunt place and a contact address and phone #.
Quota: 25 total. **Contact:** (530) 757-2461

Where: Grizzly Island (Grizzly Island WA near Fairfield)

When: Sat, Nov 15 am & pm; Sun, Nov 16, am & pm

How to Apply: Permits will be issued to junior hunters on a first-come, first served basis beginning October 1st, 2003. Deadline: Nov 3, 2003 Must include: Junior hunter name(s), Name of Chaperone(s)/Address/phone/License #/ 1st and 2nd Choice Hunt Number./4 junior per one card.

Send written app. to: Grizzly Island Jr Pheasant Hunt, Dept. of Fish and Game, 2548 Grizzly Island Road, Suisun, CA 94585-9539, or FAX (707) 425-1403.

Quota: Applications accepted until the hunt periods are full. 40 per hunt, 160 total

Contact: (707) 425-3828 or (707) 944-5500.

Where: Napa-Sonoma Marshes WA

When: Sat, Nov 15 am & pm **Deadline:** Nov 3, 2003

How to Apply: 4x6" postcard to: Napa-Sonoma Marshes WA Jr. Pheasant Hunt, DFG, PO Box 47, Yountville, CA 94599

Must include: names/address/phone/license #'s/name of adult chaperone, desired hunt w/second choice/ 2 hunters per postcard. **Quota:** 10 per period, 20 total Note: an experienced chaperone can be provided upon request. Lunch provided from 12:00 to 1:00 for youths and chaperones. **Contact:** (707) 944-5500

Where: Laytonville Junior Pheasant Hunt (Bernie Geiger Memorial)

When: Nov 15, 2003 am & pm **Deadline:** Nov 3, 2003

How to Apply: 4x6" postcard to: Laytonville Junior Pheasant Hunt, PO Box 839, Laytonville, CA 95454

Must include: names/address/phone/license #'s/name of adult chaperone w/license #,

Quota: 20. Note: an experienced chaperone can be provided upon request. **Contact:** (707) 984-8992 or (707) 944-5500

Where: Highland Springs Junior Pheasant Hunt

When: Nov 15, 2003 am & pm **Deadline:** Nov 3, 2003

How to Apply: 4x6" postcard to: Highland Springs Junior Pheasant Hunt, PO Box 47, Yountville, CA 94599.

Must include: names/address/phone/license #'s/name of adult chaperone. **Quota:** 40. **Contact:** (707) 944-5500

Where: Ray Azbill Junior Pheasant Hunt at San Miguel, Monterey County.

When: Feb 7 and 8, 2004

Applications available from Nov 1 – Dec 31, 2003, Call (805) 238-4236, **Quota:** 40, total 80. Unique hunt with more hunter education.

Free Junior Hunter Trap Shoot at Coon Creek Trap and Skeet Saturday, October 4, 2003, 8-11 am

Fifty (50) clay birds will be furnished by the Sutter County Fish and Game Commission for any junior hunters who would like to practice on moving clay targets before hunting season. A special invitation is extended to those who have signed up for a junior pheasant hunt. Several stations have been reserved for juniors at this shooting facility. No reservations needed, arrive between 8-11 am. \$4/25 clays for adults if they would like to shoot.

When: Sat. Oct. 4, 2003, Arrive 8 - 11a.m – Junior shoot over at noon

Where: Coon Creek Trap and Skeet north of Roseville. Open to public on Tues, Thurs, Sat & Sun, 10AM until dark. Call (916) 765-8278 (Coon Creek Trap) or (530) 673-7337 (Cebolla Creek Outfitters) for more info.

Bring: Your shotgun and at least 50 shotgun shells, preferably low base 7 ½ or 8 shot size.

Hamburgers and hot dogs will be served near the lunch hour.

Directions: 1) **From Hwy 65** - Go north of Lincoln on Hwy 65 to Wise Road, then west on Wise Road 2 miles to Dowd Road. Go north on Dowd Road 1.5 miles to Waltz Road and turn left. Look for the tall red microwave tower. 2) **From Hwy 70** – Go east from the East Nicolaus stoplight 5 miles and turn left (north) on Pleasant Grove Road for 3 miles. Turn right (east) on Hicks road for 3 miles, turn left (north) on Brewer Road for 1 mile, and turn right (east) on Waltz Road for about 5 miles. Look for the tall red microwave tower.

Hunter Education Training Schedule

Persons interested in going hunting this Fall should be making plans now to take their required hunter safety course. Hunter education courses must include at least 10 hours of training in both hunter safety and wildlife conservation. Some courses also include shooting practice at a range. Volunteers teach the courses and may charge a fee of up to \$10 per person. For upcoming courses contact any of the applicable numbers below or the following numbers for your area. No. California and No. Coast Region (530) 225-2003; Sacramento Valley and Central Sierra Region (916) 351-0833; Central Coast Region (707) 944-5576; San Joaquin Valley and So. Sierra Region (209) 243-4027; or So. California Region (562) 590-5670.

Hunter safety courses are also offered through local sporting goods stores, city or county recreation departments, shooting rangers or other hunting related businesses. **See Summer Wing Beat News**

Northern Calif. – North Coast Region

Regional Coordinator - Dave Smith (530) 225-2304

Sacramento Valley - Central Sierra Region

Regional Coordinator - Roy Griffith (916) 358-2946

Central Coast Region-Regional Coordinator-Tom Belt (707)944-5544

DFG Booth at Sport Shows

Come see our booth at the following sport shows this winter. Many sporting activities, hunting apparel, hunt clubs, guides and outfitters, youth activities, national and local conservation organizations, seminars and much more will be featured at these shows.

1. **San Francisco – Fishing, Tackle, and Boat Show** at the Cow Palace on January 21-25, 2004. See www.fredhall.com.
2. **Sacramento - International Sportsmen's Exposition Youth Fair** at Cal Expo/California State Fairgrounds on January 14-18, 2004. Call 360-693-3700 or 800-545-6100 for info or www.sportsexpos.com for maps and coupons.
3. **San Mateo - International Sportsmen's Exposition Youth Fair** at the San Mateo County Expo Center on January 28 – February 1, 2004. Call 360-693-3700 or 800-545-6100 for info or www.sportsexpos.com for maps and coupons.
4. **Pleasanton - International Sportsmen's Exposition Youth Fair**, Alameda County on February 26-29, 2004. Call 360-693-3700 or 800-545-6100 for info or www.sportsexpos.com for maps and coupons.

Oroville's 9th Annual Salmon Festival Saturday, Sept. 27, 2003

Shuttles available 10am – 5pm

Historical Downtown 9am – 4pm - Start off your morning with the Certified Farmer's Market and Breakfast at the Eagles! Enjoy the downtown craft faire, live music and food! Don't forget the clowns and rides for the kids!

Feather River Hatchery 10am – 4pm - See the hatchery and spawning fish; enjoy salmon tasting and environmental education, as well as other children's activities and great music and food.

Feather River Nature Center 10am – 4pm - Fancy or Traditional Maidu dancing, 2pm lunch and 6pm dinner, all at the Feather River Nature Center!

Maidu Salmon Ceremony September 26-28 - Featuring Salmon camp, plus spear fishing demonstrations on the Feather River near Riverbend Park!

San Joaquin Valley Hunts

Junior, Family, Women's Pheasant Hunts

Junior Pheasant Hunts - Twenty-eight special junior pheasant hunts are being offered to young hunters by the Department of Fish and Game, Region 4, and sportsmen's organizations. All of the hunts are free. Junior hunters (Junior license holders) must be accompanied by an adult (18 years of age or older). The adult accompanying the junior hunter cannot hunt or carry a shotgun. An Upland Game Bird Stamp is not required of junior license holders. Male ring-necked pheasants will be released prior to each hunt period.

How To Apply - Up to four junior hunters can apply as a party. When applying for the hunts, provide the following information for yourself and any other junior hunter(s) in your party: name, address, daytime and evening telephone numbers, 2003-2004 hunting license number, and location (i.e., Modesto), date and hunt period in order of preference. Hunters may apply only once for each hunt. Applying for the same hunt more than once will disqualify you from the drawing. For all hunts, simply provide the information requested above and mail it to the name and address of the hunt. Schedule is as follows: Please note that your applications must be mailed to the proper address. Only successful applicants will be notified.

Modesto - Quota 25 - Nov 8 am or pm, Nov 9 am or pm. Mail to: Game Bird Heritage Junior Pheasant Hunts, 1234 E. Shaw Ave., Fresno, Ca 93710, (559) 243-4005 ext 132 or 133. Deadline: Oct 17, 5:00 pm.

Taft - Quota 40 - Nov 8 am or pm, Nov 9 am or pm. Mail to: Taft Sportsmen's Club, P.O. Box 1245, Taft, CA 93268, (661) 763-1259. Deadline Oct 17, 5 pm.

Lake Isabella - Quota 30 - Nov 22 am or pm, Nov 23 am or pm. Mail to: Lake Isabella Jr. Pheasant Hunt, P.O. Box 127, Lake Isabella, CA 93240, (760) 379-3482 or (760) 376-2804. Deadline Oct 31, by 5:00 pm.

Mendota - Quota 25 - Nov 15 am or pm, Nov 22 am or pm. Mail to: DFG Junior Pheasant Hunts, 1234 E. Shaw Ave., Fresno, Ca 93710, (559) 243-4005 ext 132 or 133. Deadline: Oct 17, 5:00 pm.

Success Lake - Quota 50 - Nov 15 am or pm, Nov 16 am or pm. Mail to: Success Lake Junior Pheasant Hunt, P.O. Box 89, Porterville, Ca 93257. (559) 781-6087 Deadline Oct 24, 5:00 pm.

O'Neill Forebay - Quota 35 - Nov 15 am or pm, Nov 16 am or pm, Nov 22 am or pm, Nov 23 am or pm. Mail to: DFG Junior Pheasant Hunts, 1234 E. Shaw Ave., Fresno, Ca 93710, (559) 243-4005 ext 132 or 133. Deadline: Oct 17, 5:00 pm.

Family Pheasant Hunts Twenty-two San Joaquin Valley family pheasant hunting opportunities are being offered by the Dept. of Fish and Game, Region 4. When applying for the hunts, you must indicate the family members(s) in your party. Male ring-necked pheasants will be released prior to each hunt. Successful applicants and their guest(s) (except junior license holders) must pay a \$13.00 entry (waived at the Gustine hunt in lieu of a two-day or annual hunting area pass). Do not send the \$13.00 fee with your application, it will be collected when you check in at the hunt. An Upland Game Stamp is required of all hunters, except junior license holders. Hunters under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult (18 years of age or older).

How To Apply - Hunters will be selected by a random computerized drawing. Applications may include up to four family members applying as a party. When applying for the hunts, provide the following information for yourself and any other family hunter(s): name, address, daytime and evening telephone numbers, 2003-2004 hunting license number and hunt number, location (i.e., [H] Merced), date and hunt period in order of preference. Hunters may apply only once for each hunt. Applying for the same hunt more than once will disqualify you from the drawing.

Hunters will be selected for only one hunt. This is to provide more hunters with the opportunity to participate in these special hunts. Please make your selections carefully. Changes cannot be made after the drawing. Applications must be returned to: **Game Bird Heritage Family Pheasant Hunts** - 1234 East Shaw Avenue, Fresno, California 93710 Applications must be received by Friday, October 24, 2003, at 5:00 p.m. to be eligible for the drawing. Only successful applicants will be notified with instructions and a map to the hunt area. It is your responsibility to notify other family member(s) of being successful in the drawing. For an application, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Game Bird Heritage Program at (559) 243-4005, extension 132 or 133. List in the order of preference on your application.

Hunt A: Modesto, Quota 50, Sat, Dec 13 am
Hunt B: Modesto, Quota 50, Sat, Dec 13 pm
Hunt C: Oakdale, Quota 50, Sat, Nov 22 am
Hunt D: Oakdale, Quota 50 Sat, Nov 22 pm
Hunt E: Gustine, Quota 50, Sat, Nov 15 am
Hunt F: Gustine, Quota 50, Sat, Nov 15 pm
Hunt G: Merced, Quota 25, Sat, Dec 6 am
Hunt H: Merced, Quota 25, Sat, Dec 6 pm
Hunt I: Merced, Quota 25, Sun, Dec 7 am
Hunt J: Merced, Quota 25, Sun, Dec 7 pm
Hunt K: San Joaquin, Quota 50, Sat, Nov 15 am
Hunt L: San Joaquin, Quota 50, Sat, Nov 15 pm
Hunt M: Kettleman City, Quota 50, Sat, Nov 15 am
Hunt N: Kettleman City, Quota 50, Sat, Nov 15 pm
Hunt O: Chowchilla, Quota 50, Sat, Dec 13 am
Hunt P: Chowchilla, Quota 50, Sat, Dec 13 pm
Hunt Q: Stevinson, Quota 50, Sat, Nov 22 am
Hunt R: Stevinson, Quota 50, Sat, Nov 22 pm
Hunt S: Alpaugh, Quota 50, Sat, Nov 15 am
Hunt T: Alpaugh, Quota 50, Sat, Nov 15 pm
Hunt U: Bakersfield, Quota 50, Sat, Nov 15 am
Hunt V: Bakersfield, Quota 50, Sat, Nov 15 pm.

Women's Pheasant Hunts Six special women's pheasant hunting opportunities are being offered by the Dept. of Fish and Game, Region 4. When applying for the hunts, you must indicate who you would like to bring as a guest hunter. Male ring-necked pheasants will be released prior to each hunt.

Successful applicants and their guest(s) (except junior license holders) must pay a \$13.00 entry. Do not send the \$13.00 fee with your application, it will be collected when you check in at the hunt. An Upland Game Stamp is required of all hunters, except junior license holders. Hunters under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult (18 years of age or older).

Hunters will be selected by a random computerized drawing and allowed to bring one female hunting guest. When applying for the hunts, provide the following information for yourself and your guest: name, address, daytime and evening telephone numbers, 2003-2004 hunting license number, and hunt number, location(i.e., [B] Modesto), date and hunt period in order of preference. Hunters may apply only once for each hunt. Applying for the same hunt more than once will disqualify you from the drawing. Hunters will be selected for only one hunt. This is to provide more hunters with the opportunity to participate in these special hunts. Please make your selections carefully. Changes cannot be made after the drawing. Applications must be returned to:

Game Bird Heritage Women's Pheasant Hunts
1234 East Shaw Avenue, Fresno, CA 93710

Applications must be received by Friday, October 24, 2003 at 5:00 p.m. to be eligible for the drawing. Only successful applicants will be notified with instructions and a map to the hunt area. It is your responsibility to

notify your guest hunter of being successful in the drawing. For additional information on any of these hunts or an application, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Game Bird Heritage Program at (559) 243-4005, ext. 132 or 133.

Women's Pheasant Hunts

Hunt A: Bakersfield, Quota 25, Sat., Nov 22 am
Hunt B: Bakersfield, Quota 25, Sat., Nov 22 pm
Hunt C: Gustine, Quota 25, Sat., Dec 6 am
Hunt D: Gustine, Quota 25, Sat., Dec 6 pm
Hunt E: Modesto, Quota 25, Sat., Nov 15 am
Hunt F: Modesto, Quota 25, Sat., Nov 15 pm

Vivion Ranch – Private Club Junior Duck Hunt East of Marysville

California Waterfowl Association (CWA) member Ray Tolbert will be hosting two junior hunts at his club this season (Friday Nov. 28 and Friday, Dec. 26), and junior hunters are invited to apply. A parent must accompany youths, and the hunts are for juniors only. Applications for both hunts must be postmarked by October 31. Send your application with name, age, address, phone number, and date desired to 5525 Avila Court, Rocklin, CA 95677. Limited lodging is available upon request. If other clubs are interested in hosting youth hunts on their property, please contact Kerry Lewis at (916) 648-1406. CWA has materials to help you stage your hunt, and CWA will advertise on their website, www.calwaterfowl.org.

Youth Waterfowl Hunt Day Changes, Questions and Answers

At their August 28, 2003 meeting the Fish and Game Commission adopted regulations that scheduled the annual Youth Hunting Day at the conclusion of the regular duck season in the Balance of State and the Southern San Joaquin Valley zones. These days are January 31 and February 1, 2004. Reservations will be drawn for the type A areas, as they have in the past. However, remember that youths only can hunt ducks on the selected days when accompanied by a non-hunting adult.

When are the Youth Waterfowl Hunt Days in rest of California? Balance of State and Southern California Zones the dates are January 31 – February 1, 2004. In the Northeastern California Zone the youth days are September 27 & 28, 2003 and the Colorado River Zone youth hunt day is January 31, 2004

Can I hunt without a reservation on the public hunt areas? Yes, if there is space available. In the past most of the public areas have had ample spaces. Can I apply for more than one area? Yes, you may send one waterfowl reservation application for each area where you might like to hunt.

Can I hunt on private property? Certainly, if you have written permission from the land owner.

Who can go with me and can they shoot? You must be accompanied by an adult 18 years old or older when hunting a public waterfowl area but that person may NOT shoot. They are there to supervise and guide you only and perhaps take pictures to record your hunt.

How do I apply for a reservation for the public areas and what areas will be open? For hunting on wildlife areas apply on a standard waterfowl reservation application and mail it to the address in Sacramento indicated on the application. Be sure the application is received at least 17 days before the Youth Waterfowl Hunt Day. In the Sacramento Valley the following areas will be open for the junior waterfowl hunt days: Yolo Bypass WA, Gray Lodge WA, Little Dry Creek Unit of the Upper Butte Basin WA, and the Sacramento, Delevan, and Colusa NWR's. In the San Joaquin Valley the following areas will be open: Los Banos WA, Volta WA; the Salt Slough Unit, Gadwall Unit and the China Island Unit of the North Grasslands WA; Blue Goose Unit, Kesterson Unit, San Luis Unit, West Bear Creek Unit and the Frietas Unit of the San Luis NWR; the Mendota WA, Kern NWR (Sat. only) and the Merced NWR. In the Bay Area, the Napa-Sonoma Marshes WA, Grizzly Island WA and the San Francisco Bay NWR will all be open. In Northern California, Humboldt Bay NWR (Sat. only), Lake Earl WA and Shasta Valley WA will be open.

How do I apply for a reservation on a private duck club? If you do not have an invitation from a private waterfowl club and wish to hunt in the Sacramento Valley, send your name, complete mailing address, telephone number and junior hunting license number to Youth Waterfowl Hunt, DFG, 1701 Nimbus Rd., Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. In the San Joaquin Valley area send your info to: Youth Waterfowl Hunt, Attn: Bill Cook, DFG, 18110 West Henry Miller Road, Los Banos, CA 93635. You will be notified where you can hunt on one of several private duck clubs which have made their clubs available to the public.

Will it cost anything for me to hunt or my chaperone to enter the area? No, it will not cost any money for you or your chaperone to participate in the Youth Waterfowl Hunt Day. It is FREE!!!

What species can I hunt? All waterfowl species that are in season and legal to hunt.

What are the shoot hours? Do I have to stop shooting at 12:00 noon? You may shoot the legal shoot hours for the area on which you are hunting and most locations will have a stop shooting time as printed in the regulation booklet (generally sundown). However, some private duck clubs do have a 12:00 noon stop shooting time and you will be obligated to stop shooting at that time.

I purchased my Junior Hunting License when I was 15 years old but I am now 16. Can I participate in the Youth Waterfowl Shoot Day? No. You must be 15 or younger to hunt the special Youth Waterfowl Shoot Day as per Federal regulations.

For more information on Youth Waterfowl Hunt Days, call (916) 653-1382 or (916) 648-1406 or visit these web sites: www.calwaterfowl.org or www.dfg.ca.gov.

CA Duck Days Celebrates Its 10th Year

Join in celebrating the 10th anniversary of California Duck Days, a wetlands festival in the heart of the Pacific Flyway, on Friday and Saturday, February 13th and 14th, 2004. Friday evening from 5:30 to 7:30 there will be a gala reception for everyone interested in wetlands and wildlife at the Davis Art Center at Covell and F streets in Davis. In addition to refreshments and good company, the reception will feature an outstanding wildlife art exhibit created by the high school students of Yolo County.

CA Duck Days 2004 has been reorganized and streamlined under the auspices of the Yolo Basin Foundation. The festival will feature one full day of field trips and workshops on Saturday, February 14th at the Yolo Basin Foundation and CA Dept. of Fish and Game Headquarters in South Davis. Among the dozen field trips to be offered are "Local Owling" and "Wildlife Friendly Farming at the Conaway Ranch". Workshops will be held throughout the day and include "Waterfowl Drawing", "Bird Dog Demonstration" and "Bird and Bat Box Building". The always-popular Mallard ducklings will be on display as well as the Junior Duck Stamp Art Collection.

The cost for the CA Duck Days is \$20 per person, and children under 16 are free when accompanied by an adult. For more information and registration materials, please call the Yolo Basin Foundation at 530-757-3780.

Print

Reset Form

GAME BIRD HERITAGE SPECIAL HUNT APPLICATION

California Department of Fish & Game
Sacramento Valley Central Sierra Region

Please check the boxes below for the hunts you would like to apply for. You may apply for any hunt and any dates but you will only be drawn for one hunt per date. This application contains all the hunts in Region 2 except for the Delta Islands hunts (www.deltadfg.ca.gov).

This section must be complete to qualify for the drawing. You may apply as a party of up to four, as long as all hunter's names and hunting licenses appear.

Contact Address & Phone #:

Name: _____ License #: _____
 Name: _____ License #: _____
 Name: _____ License #: _____
 Name: _____ License #: _____ () _____

JUNIOR HUNTS

Area	Quota	Dates	Deadline	Check to Apply
Gray Lodge WA	25	Nov. 15	Oct. 29	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oroville WA	50	Nov. 22 am	Oct. 29	<input type="checkbox"/>
	50	Nov. 22 pm	Oct. 29	<input type="checkbox"/>
Little Dry Creek	20	Nov. 15	Oct. 29	<input type="checkbox"/>
	30	Nov. 16	Oct. 29	<input type="checkbox"/>
Llano Seco	25	Dec. 14	Nov. 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sierra Valley (Headwaters Hooker Preserve)	20	Oct. 18 am	Oct. 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
	20	Oct. 18 pm	Oct. 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
	20	Oct. 19 am	Oct. 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yuba Co. FGC	65	Oct. 18	Sep. 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	65	Oct. 19	Sep. 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yuba-Sutter DFG	65	Oct. 25 am	Oct. 7	<input type="checkbox"/>
	65	Oct. 25 pm	Oct. 7	<input type="checkbox"/>
	65	Oct. 26 am	Oct. 7	<input type="checkbox"/>
	65	Oct. 26 pm	Oct. 7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sutter FGC	65	Nov. 1 am	Oct. 14	<input type="checkbox"/>
	65	Nov. 1 pm	Oct. 14	<input type="checkbox"/>
	65	Nov. 2 am	Oct. 14	<input type="checkbox"/>
	65	Nov. 2 pm	Oct. 14	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yolo	25	Nov. 15	Oct. 29	<input type="checkbox"/>

WOMEN'S HUNTS

Area	Quota	Dates	Deadline	Check to Apply
Sierra Valley (Green Gulch R.)	15	Oct. 18 am	Oct. 8	<input type="checkbox"/>
	15	Oct. 18 pm	Oct. 8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yuba Co. FGC	65	Oct. 18	Sep. 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	65	Oct. 19	Sep. 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yuba-Sutter DFG	65	Nov. 1 am	Oct. 14	<input type="checkbox"/>
	65	Nov. 1 pm	Oct. 14	<input type="checkbox"/>
	65	Nov. 2 am	Oct. 14	<input type="checkbox"/>
	65	Nov. 2 pm	Oct. 14	<input type="checkbox"/>

WILD BIRD PUBLIC HUNT

Area	Quota	Dates	Deadline	Check to Apply
South East Fremont Weir	40	Nov. 8	Oct. 22	<input type="checkbox"/>
	40	Nov. 12	Oct. 29	<input type="checkbox"/>
	40	Nov. 15	Oct. 29	<input type="checkbox"/>
	40	Nov. 19	Nov. 5	<input type="checkbox"/>
	40	Nov. 22	Nov. 5	<input type="checkbox"/>
	40	Nov. 26	Nov. 12	<input type="checkbox"/>
	40	Nov. 29	Nov. 12	<input type="checkbox"/>
	40	Dec. 3	Nov. 19	<input type="checkbox"/>
	40	Dec. 6	Nov. 19	<input type="checkbox"/>

FAMILY HUNT

Area	Quota	Dates	Deadline	Check to Apply
Little Dry Creek	50	Nov. 9	Oct. 22	<input type="checkbox"/>

MOBILITY IMPAIRED HUNTS

Area	Quota	Dates	Deadline	Check to Apply
Sutter Yuba	65	October 25 pm (Juniors)	Oct. 7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Birds Ltd.		By appt.	530-823-9310	<input type="checkbox"/>

Mail to: Department of Fish and Game
GBH Special Hunts
1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A,
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
For Questions Call: 916-358-2877

Definitions- Junior: A person who purchased a CA hunting license while under the age of 16. Woman: Any female with a CA hunting license. Public: Any one with a CA hunting license. Mobility Impaired-Any CA hunting license holder with a mobility impairment (unless specified for juniors). Family- Any party of two or more, preferably with at least 1 junior.

FALL 2003 AND SPRING 2004 TURKEY SEASONS

The **Fall 2003 wild turkey season** is 16 days in length - **November 8 through November 23, 2003**. The fall bag limit will be **1 turkey, either sex, per day and 1 per season**. The **Spring 2004 wild turkey season** will be from **March 27- May 2, 2004**. The bag limit is **1 bearded turkey per day, 3 per season** (A bearded turkey is one that has a beard visible through the breast feathers.).

The shooting hours for all upland game birds (including fall turkey season), except for pheasants and spring wild turkey season, shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. The shooting hours for pheasants shall be from 8:00 a.m. to sunset. **The shooting hours for the spring wild turkey season shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to 4:00 p.m.**

Forecast - Nesting and brood survival appears to be high. Numerous large broods of young birds are being seen throughout northern California. Turkey hunting this fall and next spring should be good due to the 2003 wet spring weather.

Places to Hunt:

Spenceville Wildlife Area (11,213 acres) and **Daugherty Hill WA** (4,200 acres) -Type C areas -Both WA's are 20 miles east of Marysville. No permits needed for the fall turkey season. Permits issued by drawing at the DFG, Region 2 office for Sat., Sun., and Wed., for the first 9 days of spring turkey season. For maps call the DFG at (916) 358-2900.

Feather River Wildlife Area - Type C areas -Units are located 23-28 miles north of Sacramento on both sides of the Feather River. This WA is occasionally flooded during spring turkey season. The Lake of the Woods Unit (700 acres) is located 25 miles north of Sacramento and 10 miles south of Marysville on Feather River Boulevard. Access is south from the Star Bend Fishing Access. The Nelson Slough Unit (800 acres) is located 23 miles north of Sacramento, 17 miles south of Yuba City and under the Highway 99 Feather River Bridge. Access is east or west on Sacramento Avenue. The O'Connor Lake's Unit (471 acres) and the Abbott Lake Unit (439 acres) are 30 miles north of Sacramento and 10 miles south of Yuba City at the east end of Star Bend Road. Park on top of the levee at the end of Star Bend Road. Waterfowl, rabbit, quail, dove, tree squirrel, pheasant, wild turkey, coyote, crow, and deer hunting are available. Shotguns and archery equipment only. For maps call DFG at (916) 358-2900

Auburn State Recreation Area (30,000 acres) - South of Interstate 80 near Auburn. Hunting is allowed from Sept. 1 to Jan. 31 and spring turkey season. Only shotguns, rifles or bows and arrows may be used. Popular game species include deer, valley quail, dove, band-tailed pigeon and wild turkey. Write the Auburn State RA, CA Dept. of Parks and Recreation, P.O. Box 3266, Auburn, CA 95604 or call (916) 885-4527/988-0205 for maps and information.

Black Butte Reservoir (8000 acres) - 25 miles west of Chico via Highway 32 and Newville Road. Waterfowl, quail, dove, pheasant, turkey, deer and wild pig are available. For info and a map contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 19225 Newville Road, Orland, CA 95963 or call (916) 865-4781.

Paynes Creek Area (17,000 acres of blue oak woodland and riparian forest, many creeks) - Hunting daily during hunting seasons - Located between Cottonwood and Red Bluff. Dove, quail, turkeys and waterfowl are available. For further info contact the BLM in Redding at (530) 224-2100.

Tehama Wildlife Area (44,601 acres) - Type C area - Open for hunting all year except for the southern portion of the wildlife area, south of Hogsback Road, which is closed to public entry from February 1 to the first Saturday in April for the purpose of not disturbing wintering deer. The wildlife area is generally open to all hunting except for the G-1 Late Season Buck Hunt for Zone C-4. G-1 USE PERMITS are issued by drawing for that season which generally begins the 4th Saturday in October and extends for 9 days. No pig hunting except during April/May by USE PERMIT only. Access: Headquarters is located 23 miles east of Red Bluff via Highway 36 and south on Plum Creek Road. Hogsback Road enters the wildlife area 16 miles east of Red Bluff. Best turkey hunting areas are Plum and Oak Creeks, and De-haven Gulch. For info and a map call (530) 597-2201.

Lake Oroville State Recreation Area - Hunting daily from September 15 through January 31 and during the spring wild turkey season(when only turkeys may be hunted) - (4,150 acres) - 7 miles east of Oroville via Hwy 162; boat access to much of the area. The majority of the Recreation Area lands consist of a narrow strip surrounding Oroville Lake extending a minimum of 300 feet from the high water line to one-half mile or more in some areas. Some U.S. Forest Service and BLM lands adjoin the Recreation Area. CA and mtn quail, wild turkey, band-tailed pigeon, rabbits, squirrels and pheasant are also available. No waterfowl or deer hunting allowed. Hunting on or from the water surface of Lake Oroville is prohibited. For a map contact the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, 400 Glen Drive, Oroville, CA 95966 or call (916) 538-2200 or 538-2219.

El Dorado National Forest - 15 miles east of Placerville. Park Creek Road, Silver Lake Road, and Iron Mountain Road access the ridges on the east and south sides of Jenkinson Lake. The property immediately surrounding Jenkinson Lake is private. For a map contact the El Dorado NF Info Center, 3070 Camino Heights Drive, Camino CA 95709 or call (916) 644-6048.

New Hogan Lake (400 acres) - 30 miles east of Stockton. For a map contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2713 Hogan Dam Blvd., Valley Springs, CA 95252 or call (209) 772-1343.

Lake Sonoma - 14 miles west of Healdsburg. Fall and spring turkey hunting by reservation only. For information contact the DFG, Region 3 at 707 944-5500. No other hunting allowed.

Mendocino NF east of Covelo (Mendocino County) and in the Lake Pillsbury area (Lake County). For a map contact the Mendocino NF, 420 East Laurel St., Willows, CA 95988 or call (916) 934-3316.

Cache Creek Wildlife Area (3,860 acre of DFG land) and Cache Creek Management Area (85,000 acres of BLM land) in Lake, Yolo and Colusa Counties.

Indian Valley Wildlife Area (1,600 acres of DFG land) and Indian Valley Management Area (50,000 acres of BLM land) in Lake and Colusa Counties.

Cow Mountain Recreation Area (50,000 acres of BLM land) in Lake and Mendocino Counties.

Cedar Roughs Area (About 6,500 acres of BLM and DFG land in 2 blocks in Napa County).

Boggs Mountain State Forest on Hwy 29 near Hobergs, 3,393 acres of mixed coniferous forest.

(See the QUAIL SEASON article for detailed descriptions about the Cache Creek WA, Indian Valley WA, Cow Mountain RA, Cedar Roughs Area and the Boggs Mtn SF.)

National Forests in the Sierras Nevada Mtns.- The lower elevation areas sometimes have turkeys. Purchase a National Forest map and hike the lowest elevation areas looking for turkey sign in the oak groves.

Oroville Wildlife Area (11,871 acres) - West side of Oroville CA. Spring turkey hunting by reservation only. No fall turkey hunting on this area. Waterfowl, rabbit, quail, dove, tree squirrel, chukar, bobwhite, coyote, crow, and deer hunting are also available. For maps call DFG at (916) 358-2900.

Editors Note - If you notice any errors or omissions with this article, please call 530 743-5068 and leave a message with the name of the article and the comment.

Grizzly Island Wildlife Area Junior Waterfowl Hunts

Junior Waterfowl Hunts are planned for Saturday, December 13 and Wednesday, December 31, 2003. Spaced blinds on Pond 11 and Crescent Unit of the Grizzly Island WA will be available only for junior hunt participants and will be closed to the general public. Junior hunters (hunters possessing a junior hunting license) will be selected by a reservation process and first-come, first-serve juniors will also be accepted on the day of each hunt to use the free roam areas and to fill any no-shows from the reservations. The rest of the Grizzly Island WA is open to the general hunting public on these days and seldom fills to capacity. Reservation applications will be accepted by mail. The procedure for submitting an application for a reservation is as follows:

1. Use only a standard U.S. Postal Service postcard (3 1/2" by 5").
2. Give full name, address, telephone number, 03-04 hunting license #, and name of chaperone for each junior hunter applying.
3. One adult (18 years of age or older) is required to accompany and supervise each junior hunter. The **adult may hunt** with the junior hunter provided they possess the required 2003-04 hunting license and State and Federal waterfowl stamps. Sixteen-year-old junior license holders must have a Federal Waterfowl Stamp to hunt waterfowl. **All available blinds can accommodate two persons, the junior hunter and his or her adult chaperone.** Steel shot and a minimum of one dozen duck decoys are required at all blind sites, and hip boots or chest waders are recommended.
4. **Mail postcards to: Grizzly Island Jr. Duck Hunt, 2548 Grizzly Island Road, Suisun, CA 94585 by close of business on November 26, 2003.** Sixteen reservations will be issued for each date.

West Family Unit - The DFG would also like to encourage use of the West Family Unit, which available only to junior hunters. Hunt days are Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays throughout the open season. An adult chaperon is required and four double blinds are available. The unit is north of Benicia on Goodyear Road: from Highway 680 take the Marshview Road exit and turn right onto Goodyear Road from the off-ramp and the hunt area will be on the left.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sacramento NWR and Delevan NWR Junior Waterfowl Hunts

Junior Waterfowl Hunts are planned for Saturday, December 13, 2003 at Sacramento NWR and Saturday, December 20, 2003 at Delevan NWR. Junior hunters will be selected from reservation applications postmarked between November 1-30, 2002.

For the application process, use only a standard U.S. Postal Service card. Give full name, address, telephone number, hunt choice, and hunting license number for each junior hunter applying. Up to two junior hunters may apply per card. One adult (18 years of age or older) may accompany up to two juniors but no more than four people can occupy one blind. Only one application for each hunt may be submitted. Use a separate postcard for each refuge and specify either Sacramento NWR or Delevan NWR. Mail postcards to: Refuge Manager, Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge, 752 County Road 99 W, Willows, CA 95988.

A letter of confirmation and a numbered Junior Hunting Permit will be returned at least 7 days prior to the hunt day. The number on the permit will determine the hunting party's sequence of entry. Adults cannot hunt. Retrieving dogs, decoys, and chest waters are recommended. There is no entry fee for this hunt.

Lottery Draw. Those not receiving a numbered reservation for the junior duck hunt will be able to enter a lottery draw held at 5:30 a.m. on the morning of the hunt. This draw will be used to fill reservation no-shows and refill the blinds. The procedure for entering the lottery draw is as follows: 1) Hunters must fill out only one lottery card per hunting party, 2) Hunters may enter the lottery at the check station beginning at 6:00 p.m. the day before the hunt until 5:30 a.m. the morning of the hunt, 3) After filling out a lottery card, hunters may leave the parking area but must be present for the lottery draw, 4) Hunters arriving after the lottery draw will be added to first-come, first-served list. Displays and activities pertaining to waterfowl management, hunting ethics, and hunting techniques will be available. For further info call Sacramento NWR at (530) 934-2801.

September 2003

- 1 First half of dove hunting season opens. www.dfg.ca.gov
- 1 Jr Dove Hunt, Winton, Merced Co. (559) 243-4005 ext 133
- 13 Dance in the Wild, Sacramento Zoo, Sacramento County. \$ (916) 264-5888
- 14-15 Modoc Migratory Bird and Wildlife Festival, Modoc County. Free (530) 233-3572 www.riverexchange.org
- 20 Upper Newport Bay Estuary Cleanup Day, Orange County. 9am-1pm. Free (949) 640-6746
- 20 National Public Lands Day, Across the State. Free (202) 833-2933 x474 www.npld.com
- 27-29 Turkey Vulture, Raptor & Fall Migration Festival, Kern County. (760) 378-4013
- 20 Brushup Day, Sacramento & Delevan National Wildlife Refuges, Glenn County. Free (530) 934-2801
- 27 Statewide Free Fishing Day, Department of Fish and Game (916) 358-2872, (415)892-0460, (562)590-4835, (559)243-1462
- 27 Oroville Salmon Festival, Butte County. Free (530) 538-2542
- 27-28 Youth Waterfowl Hunt in Northeastern Zone, Call for details. (530) 225-2300

October 2003

- 4 Tarantula Fest and Fall BBQ, Santa Clara. \$ (408) 848-4006 www.coepark.parks.org
- 4-5 Trinity County Salmon Festival, Trinity County. \$ (530) 623-2760 www.tcarts.com
- 5-6 Kokanee Salmon Festival, El Dorado County. Free (530) 573-2674 www.r5.fs.fed.us/ltbmu/
- 13-19 National Wildlife Refuge Week, <http://pacific.fws.gov> <http://refuges.fws.gov> <http://acramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov>
- 11 Crane Tour Day at Merced NWR, Merced County. Free (209) 826-3508 <http://sanluis.fws.gov>
- 11-12 American River Salmon Festival, Sacramento County. \$ (916) 361-8700 www.salmonfestival.net
- 19 Truckee River Day, Nevada County. Free (530) 265-4531 www.r5.fs.fed.us/tahoe
- 18 Return of the Salmon Festival, Shasta County. Free (530) 225-2566 www.r1.fws.gov
- 18-19 Headwater Honker Preserve Junior Pheasant Hunt, Plumas County. (916) 358-2877
- 18, 25 Junior Waterfowl Hunts at Lower Klamath NWR, Siskiyou County 2nd and 3rd Saturdays after season start (530) 667-2231

November 2003

Apply for December youth waterfowl hunts in November.

- 18-19 Feather River Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Sutter County. (916) 358-2877
- 7-9 Sandhill Crane Festival, San Joaquin County. \$ (209) 367-7840 www.lodichamber.com
- 12 Lodi Salmon Festival, San Joaquin County. \$ (209) 333-6890 www.lodichamber.com
- 8 Second half of dove hunting season opens. www.dfg.ca.gov
- 8-9 Taft Junior Pheasant Hunt, Kern County. Reservations required. (661) 763-1259
- 8-9 Modesto Junior Pheasant Hunt, Stanislaus County. Reservations required. (559) 243-2005 ext 133
- 15 Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Butte County. (530) 846-7500
- 22-23 Junior Pheasant Hunt, Lake Isabella. Kern County. Reservations required. (559) 243-2005 ext 132
- 15 Vic Fazio/Yolo Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt. (530) 757-2461
- 15-16 O'Neill Forebay Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Merced Co. Reservations required. (559) 243-2005 ext132

November 2003 (con't)

- 15-16 Success Lake Junior Pheasant Hunt, Tulare County. Reservations required. (559) 243-2005 ext132
- 15-16 Little Dry Creek Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Butte County. (530) 982-2169
- 15-16 Delta Islands Wildlife Area Jr. Pheasant Hunt, San Joaquin Co. Reservations required. (209) 948-7068
- 15, 22 Junior Pheasant Hunt at Mendota Wildlife Area. Reservations required. (559) 243-2005 ext132
- 22 Oroville Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Thermalito Afterbay, Butte County. (530) 538-2236
- 15,16, O'Neill Forebay Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Merced County.
- 22, 23 Reservations required. (559) 243-2005 ext132
- 28 Vivion Ranch Junior Waterfowl Hunt, Yuba County, Apply by October 31 (916) 648-1406
- TBA Stockton Sportsmen's Club Junior Pheasant Hunts, San Joaquin County. Held every day from the pheasant opener to the Saturday prior to the close of the season. Free (209) 957-9717

December 2003

- 14-Jan 5 Christmas Bird Count, Across the State. (916) 481-5332 www.audubon.org/bird/cbc
- 13 Sacramento NWR Youth Waterfowl Hunt, Glenn County. Apply in November. (530) 934-2801
- 14 Llano Seco Ranch Junior Pheasant Hunt, Glenn County. Apply in November (530) 934-2801
- 20 Delevan NWR Youth Waterfowl Hunt, Colusa County. Apply in November. (530) 934-2801
- 26 Vivion Ranch Junior Waterfowl Hunt, Yuba County, Apply by October 31. (916) 648-1406
- 13, 31 Grizzly Island Junior Waterfowl Hunts, Solano County. Apply in November. (707) 425-3828

January 2004

- 14-18 Sacramento International Sportsmen's Exposition Youth Fair, Cal Expo, Sac. County. www.sportsexpos.com
- 23-25 Snow Goose Festival, Butte County. \$ (530) 345-1865 www.sacrivetrust.org/events.html
- 23-25 San Francisco Bay Flyway Festival, Solano County. \$ (707) 557-9816 www.sfbayflywayfestival.com
- 16-19 Morro Bay Winter Bird Festival, San Luis Obispo County. \$ (805) 772-4467 www.morro-bay.net/birds
- 28- Feb 1 San Mateo International Sportsmen's Exposition Youth Fair, San Mateo County. www.sportsexpos.com
- 31-Feb 1 Youth Waterfowl Hunt Days, Balance of the State Zone. (916) 445-3445 www.calwaterfowl.org or www.dfg.ca.gov

February 2004

- TBA San Francisco Bay Duck Days, Alameda. \$ (510) 792-0222 <http://desfbay.fws.gov>
- 26-29 Pleasanton International Sportsmen's Exposition Youth Fair, Alameda County www.sportsexpos.com
- 14 California Duck Days, Yolo County. \$ (530) 758-0530



For More Information Contact:
California Waterfowl Association
Calif. Dept of Fish & Game
The Mule Deer Foundation
National Audubon Society - California
The National Wild Turkey Federation
Quail Unlimited
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Sacramento Trapshooting Club
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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Upland Game – General Seasons

Pheasant: Nov. 8 – Dec. 21, 2003
 Mountain Quail – Zone A: Sept. 13 – Oct. 17, 2003
 All Quail – Zone A: Oct. 18, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004
 All Quail – Zone B: Sept. 27, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004
 All Quail – Zone C: Oct. 18, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004
 Chuckar (Red-legged Partridges): Oct. 18, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004
 Wild Turkeys: Nov. 8-23, 2003
 Band-tailed Pigeons – Northern Zone: Sept. 20-28, 2003
 Band-tailed Pigeons – Southern Zone: Dec. 20-28, 2003
 Mourning Doves: Sept. 1-15, 2003 and Nov. 8-Dec. 22, 2003

Common Snipe: Oct. 18, 2003 – Feb. 1, 2004
 American Crow: Dec. 6, 2003 – April 7, 2004
 Tree Squirrels- Northern California Counties:
 Sept. 13, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004
 Brush, Cottontail and Pygmy Rabbits, and Varying Hare – w/
 exception in San Joaquin Co.: July 1, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004
 Black-tailed and White-tailed jackrabbits: All year
 Sage Grouse: Sept. 13-14, 2003
 Blue and Ruffed Grouse: Sept. 13 – Oct. 13, 2003
 White-tailed Ptarmigan: Sept. 13 – 21, 2003

Calif. Department of Fish & Game
 Wing Beat News - Region 2
 3207 Rutherford Rd.
 Gridley, CA 95948

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 Standard
 US Postage Paid
 Permit #426
 Sacramento, CA

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